NUI MAYNOOTH

Ollscoil na hÉireann Má Nuad

Annual Report of the Librarian
2005/06
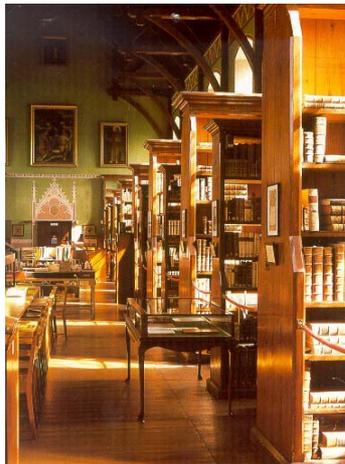
Turascáil Bliantiúil ón Leabharlannaí
# 2005/06

Contents

Summary

The year saw a continuing decline in the use of "traditional" services such as borrowing and inter-library loans. The extension of HEA funding to include Humanities and Social Science subjects contributed to a further increase in the number of electronic journals. Together with improved off-campus access to electronic services this contributed to a substantial increase in the use of online services. For the first time more articles were downloaded than books borrowed. A number of e-book services were also added to the collection.

Finding space for additional print material in an overcrowded building continued to be a challenge. The various subjects were reviewed and in collaboration with departments items for storage or deselection were identified. Once again this necessitated the reshelving of a substantial part of the Library.

In an ever-changing information world the Library continued to examine its role and plan for the future. The challenges faced by libraries are formidable, where in 2006 it was estimated that three million times more digital data was created than the amount of information in all the books ever written. Additionally, the requirements of students and researchers are changing. A strategic plan looking at some practical means of developing the Library until 2008 was finalised.

Extra funding from both NUIM and St Patrick's College enabled the work of cataloguing the book collection in the Russell Library to accelerate and records for a significant part of the collection were added to the online catalogue.

The year saw the departure, after thirty-five years, of full-time security personnel from the Library and the introduction of a controlled access system. Thanks to the library staff who were supportive of the many resulting operational changes and especially to the library users who were patient and understanding through all the teething problems.
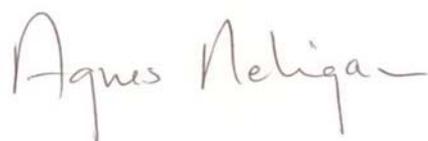
Agnes Neligan
Librarian
May 2007

Planning for the future

The Library continued to examine and redefine its role in response to the changing and challenging environment in which it operates. Trends and patterns of library usage were monitored and changes made where possible. The changes necessitated a move towards a better use of existing staff expertise and the ongoing training and development of staff.

The main trends observed were - less pressure on seating as the number of readers visiting the Library declined; substantial decrease in the number of interlibrary loan requests; decrease in the use and borrowing of books; low usage of printed periodicals; decrease in the demand for reference services; substantial increase in the use of electronic resources and a substantial increase in training students in information skills. The services provided by the Library are no longer confined by the constraints of the physical space and the services required within the Library are also changing.

The Library's Strategic Plan for 2006-2008 (library.nuim.ie/about/policies_strategic_plan.shtm) was finalised. The plan looked at some practical ways in which the Library can continue to support the University's mission in light of these new developments.

Use of services

A total of 7,129 borrowers registered with the Library. A pilot project evaluating the impact of registering the on-campus Adult Education Certificate students for borrowing facilities ran from January to May. Following this it was decided to offer borrowing facilities to all Adult Education Certificate students in the 2006/07 academic year. The impact of adding such a significant number of potential users will be monitored.

There was an overall decrease in the number of users applying to visit other libraries, with the number wishing to use the ALCID scheme almost halved. This would indicate that the Library is satisfying the information needs of users more appropriately.

There were 130,137 items borrowed, representing a decrease of 11.5% on the previous year. While the majority of these items were books (80%), 10% were core texts in the Reserve Collection and 5% were laptops. 66% of the items borrowed were by undergraduate users, the most heavily used items were from the Reserve Collection, followed by week loan items. As has been the trend over recent years the number of items re-shelved (295,822) decreased again by almost 10%. The number of photocopies made also decreased by 6%.

Information skills training

The skills of incoming students in negotiating the complexities of the Library have changed considerably in recent years. Students are used to continuous communication, through texting, phone calls, email and instant

access to information, but increasingly find it more difficult to manage printed sources. The library's programme is constantly reviewed and updated to reflect these changes and to keep the programme student friendly.

A total of 1,273 attended library orientation programmes in September 2006. This was a 23% increase over 2004/05 and represents an 85% attendance rate by students involved in the University's Programme for Registration and Orientation. A review of the programme by library staff and the analysis of the feedback forms indicated participants responded very positively to the problem-based aspect of the programme and to the video.

Further training courses were offered during the first three weeks of term. A total of 312 students attended these courses, an 87% increase on the previous year. In addition, support measures were introduced to assist students who experienced difficulties using the Library.

Subject Librarians continued to provide training in consultation with the relevant academic departments. The training sessions varied from group tutorials to lectures and multidisciplinary workshops. The content of each training session was organised to meet the information needs of the individuals attending. 1,745 students attended these training sessions.

The Library was involved in the training of academic staff in the use of Moodle and the Turnitin Plagiarism Prevention Software used to identify unoriginal material not referenced correctly by students. Library staff ran a series of classes on *Referencing and Plagiarism* in conjunction with the Quality Promotion Office to promote best practice in referencing and avoiding plagiarism.

Library website

Work began on upgrading the website in order to comply with accessibility guidelines provided by the W3C Accessibility Initiative. It was decided to redesign the structure to make it more flexible. With the help of the Computer Centre, usage statistics were extracted. Based on data from March 2006 to September 2006 these showed that hits to the Library's homepage averaged at 36,680 per month, with a high in May of 66,549 hits. Predictably in May the examinations papers' databases were the most heavily used, with 13,936 recorded hits for the ExPERT homepage.

Collections: journals and databases

The transformation from print to online subscriptions continued as more titles became available online and as more titles were made available under the IReL initiative. The HEA agreed in March 2006 to provide additional funding for Humanities and Social Sciences journals. An initial grant of €2.6m was provided in 2006 with an annual grant of €4.5m up to and including 2009.

By the end of year the Library had access to over 16,000 electronic journals. 84% of science journals, 43% Arts and 36% Social Science were taken only electronically. Over one third of the science titles were funded from IReL. Usage of the collection continued to rise with over 130,000 full-text articles downloaded.

Access to the electronic resources off-campus was facilitated by the introduction of the EzProxy service by the Computer Centre. Users response to this facility was very positive and substantially reduced the number of enquires received relating to off-campus access.

Work continued on the final phase of SFX, a linking tool that will enable the Library to manage the continuous growth of electronic collections, and will provide the user with a single-click function to simultaneously search multiple electronic resources. Over 10,000 links to full-text electronic journals were activated and configured on the SFX server.

Collections: books and eBooks

There was a slight increase in the number of items purchased (4,265), almost half were received shelf-ready. The average cost per item was €59.67. A new feature was introduced where once an order is receipted, an email is automatically sent to the person who originally requested the title. Semesterisation has increased the problem where there is a discrepancy between the start of the teaching year in mid September and the financial year on 1st October. Numerous requests for book orders are received, especially for multiple copy short loan textbooks for undergraduates, when many book budgets no longer have funds available.

The Library reviewed a number of eBook services with a view to expanding the eBook collection. MEMSO, Ebrary, MyiLibrary, NetLibrary and KNOVEL were reviewed in consultation with academic staff. It is hoped that eBooks could relieve space pressure in the Library as well as providing key textbooks to students in an online format from the library website but also within other learning environments such as Moodle.

One of the fundamental roles of the Library is to provide adequate reading support to students. During the summer, the Library submitted a proposal for funding for a project to address the mismatch between library provision and the expectations of users. To solve the problem, it suggested a strategy that would include the availability of electronic material, better delivery systems and the possibility of an electronic copyright clearance license. It is envisaged that this would be a central service developed in close collaboration with Teaching and Learning, the Computer Centre and academic staff.

Donations

A number of valuable donations were received during the year, most notably from the following:
Professor Ernan McMullin, Philosophy journals
Dr Patricia Donlon, 299 Spanish books

Belgian Embassy, 70 books

Swiss Arts Council (Pro Helvetia), 96 books

Monsignor Denis Faul, bequest of theology books to St Patrick's College

Professor Howard Gillette, American history books

Space issues

Shelving space remains a critical issue throughout the Library. Phase one of a project to review and update the collection began in the summer. In the periodicals area this involved replacing current shelving in the Arts collection with regular shelving and reviewing the print collection in light of the increasing availability and use of electronic journals. Following consultation with academic departments a total of 70 metres of periodicals from the Library and the Kildare Store were identified for disposition. These comprised short runs, titles now available via the JSTOR archive and foreign language theology titles.

As part of the project the reference material throughout the Library was reviewed, and the theses collections were brought together in one physical location in the Kildare Store.

Controlled access

In a co-operative project, managed by the Head of Security, controlled access was installed in the Library in April 2006 following the withdrawal of full-time security personnel. This project involved the Computer Centre, the Registrar's Office, the Buildings Office, Security, the suppliers of the access gates Boon Edam, the book security system 3M and Group 4. The system also required the installation of new cabling, new network access points, security cameras, and the associated upgrade of the Library's network bandwidth. This work accounted for many of the scheduled power outages during the year.

It could not have happened without the co-operation of library staff and the support from security personnel, particularly during the implementation phase. Despite the implementation coinciding with a stressful time for students, students adapted to the change very patiently and positively.

In the absence of a university identity card staff were issued with a second card in order to access the building. A central registration procedure for university staff would reduce much duplication across the campus. Ideally, this would also remove the need for staff to have two separate cards for the Library.

Exhibitions

National Tree Week, March 2006

Anti Bullying Exhibition, March 2006

Seachtain na Gaeilge, Éirí amach 1916, March 2006

Marguerite Yourcenar, French poet, novelist, essayist, short story writer, November 2005

Contributed to and helped organise exhibition in Maynooth Castle as part NUI Maynooth Arts Week, November 2005.

An exhibition of silkscreen printing by Margaret Farrell, November 2005

A workshop by Margaret Farrell on the technique of silkscreen printing, November 2005

ePrints

The NUI Maynooth ePrint Archive has been in operation for four years. To date, 143 users have been registered and 316 documents have been submitted. The archive continued to attract external interest, with information requested by Manchester Metropolitan University, TCD, DCU, UCD and Waterford Institute of Technology. In November 2005 NUI Maynooth joined the international ePrints Community affording the opportunity to participate in shaping the future of ePrints software.

Additional material was added to the archive with the support of funding from the Quality Promotion Office and the Office of Research and Graduate Studies. In June 2006 a new ePrints server was purchased which is now housed in the Computer Centre.

Upgrading systems and equipment

The library system was upgraded to ALEPH 16 on schedule during the inter-semester vacation, with the new version going live on 27 January 2006. The new version enabled Systems to implement new workflows and features designed to enhance the users experience of the catalogue, including a new sublibrary for Electronic Journals and the facility to search on additional data fields.

A new wireless network coverage area was implemented in the Seminar Room on Level 2 of the John Paul II Library and the existing wireless network on the ground floor of the building was upgraded to a virtual private network (VPN). Both of the wireless network coverage areas in the building were configured to handle the full range of library wireless devices. A wireless network was also installed in the Russell Library.

The Library's wireless devices were also upgraded. 16 new Dell D410 laptops were introduced to the lending service and almost a thousand laptop loans per month were recorded during their first months of service. It is interesting to note that the 16 laptops in circulation incurred the same support overhead as the 120 desktop PCs in the Library. Most of the support centred on assisting users who had drifted out of a coverage area and had lost access to their personal storage space on the network. Battery re-charging timeslots were also a support concern, as all of the devices were in high demand at all times.

As the provision of a dedicated training room emerged as one of the Library's strategic initiatives, a further 12 new Dell D620 laptops were purchased for training purposes.

Russell Library

- ### Cataloguing project

An illustrated pamphlet describing five important collections was prepared and published to promote the Russell Library print collection and seek funding for the Russell Library Cataloguing Project. It was launched on 15 December 2005 by the President, Professor Hughes, in the Russell Library.

Beginning in August 2006 funding was provided to employ a full-time cataloguer for one year. This resulted in a considerable increase in productivity. To date there are 7,022 titles in the online catalogue.

- ### Use of the collection

1,315 items were consulted, the majority being books and pamphlets. Images from material were used in posters, on web sites (e.g. International Workshop on Constraints in Discourse, Maynooth, July 2006, http://www.constraints-in-discourse.org), in handouts, exhibitions and publications. The title-page of a Dublin printing of an 18th- century periodical, unique to Maynooth, was reproduced by Paula James in *The role of the parrot in selected texts from Ovid to Jean Rhys* (2006). The June 2006 issue of *Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America* reproduces a vital inscription on an 18th- century pamphlet, conclusively proving its authorship. An engraving of St Brigid from Thomas Messingham's *Florilegium* (1624) appeared on the cover of the April issue of the *Catholic Historical Review*.

The NUI Maynooth Christmas card 2005 was reproduced from an illuminated 15th- century Italian manuscript in the Russell Library, RB 52. An illuminated miniature from a Book of Hours (Paris, c.1526), RB 39, was reproduced for the St Patrick's College Christmas card.

- ### Visitors

Visiting groups included Friends of the Royal Library of Sweden, on their Irish tour (12 October), local post-primary students (20 October), delegates from the conference held by the Universities Association for Lifelong Learning (23 March), delegations from Chinese and American universities, guests of the International Office, Friends of the Chester Beatty Library (28 April), St John of God pilgrimage from Australia (8 May and 1 September), Gerard Manley Hopkins Summer School, (23 July).

Other visitors included Mark Tully of BBC (1 February), the Portuguese Ambassador (16 November), Dr Anna Aba from Nigeria – overwhelmed at seeing the Gospel of Mark in her own language, Idoma, which she thought had never been written down (28 November), Dr David Eben of Charles University, Prague, leading expert in Gregorian Chant, Imogen Stuart (4 April); Professor Suskin, expert in Maimonides (28 April), Mick Warboys, Director of the Wellcome Centre for the History of Science, (30 March) and Professor Richard Pring, Oxford.

- ### Bookplates and fine bindings

A project was started to identify all bookplates, fine bindings, and early decorative papers. Digital images will be made subsequently and where possible, a full identification of owners.

- ### Teaching

A course for MA English students 'History of the text, and bibliographical research' was held and course projects were supervised and marked. The MA History module 'Paleography and Documents' included four hours in the Russell Library on the history of the printed book.

- o Exhibitions

An exhibition 'Early printing in cities of Europe, through an Irish eye-glass' was held between October 2005 and March 2006.

- o Donations

A reception was held in the Russell Library (16 February) to mark the donation by Professor John Andrews, formerly of TCD, of his fine collection of books and pamphlets on map history to the Library. Eileen Battersby of the *Irish Times* interviewed the Librarian, Agnes Neligan, and Dr Jacinta Prunty in the Russell Library (9 February) and her article appeared in the *Irish Times* of 14 February.

Books were also kindly donated by Catherine Boylan, Etaín Ó Siocháin (from the books of the late Eibhlín Bean Uí Chléirigh), Loughlin Sweeney and Zoltán Magyar.

- o Conservation

Work began on the removal of the Conservation Unit from its present position in the centre of the reading room to the ground floor. When the move is complete, it will be possible to tackle the ever-increasing number of items awaiting wet processing.

Items under repair were Filíocht an Chláir. Renehan 69; Florence Conry (Desiderius), *Sgáthan an chrábhaidh* (A Lobhain, 1616). RB 236; Samuel Johnson, *A Dictionary of the English Language* (London, 1755). EL:1.4 and Claudius Guillaud, *Collatio un omnes D. Pauli epistolas* (Lugduni, 1542). NT:4.120.

Items completed were Thomas Stafford, *Pacata Hibernia* (London, 1633). RB 197; Holy Bible (Dublin, 1815). Volume 2. HBS 10 and Muriel A.C. Press (ed.), *Laxdaela Saga* (London, 1899). 839.68 Lax.

Kilkenny Campus Library

The Library was established in September 1997. Its stock is selected on the basis of course requirements and as such has grown in size as the courses have progressed. There are now almost 3,000 titles or 5,500 volumes in the collection. The collection is also designed to reflect the location of the campus and the local history of both Kilkenny and St. Kieran's College. Currently, there are almost 300 registered adult / part-time students pursuing various courses. Registered students have full access to the Library on the Maynooth campus. An inter-branch loan service is in place between the two libraries.

Most of the computing and photocopying facilities are housed in the Library, which is staffed by a librarian and two part-time library assistants. There are nine PCs available for student use. Printing, multimedia and scanning facilities are also available. Six of the PCs are networked to the Maynooth computer network enabling students to access the Internet and as well as standard computer applications. These computers also provide access to the online journal and electronic resources which are available to students on the main campus.

Staff professional activities

All library staff received training for the newly-introduced Performance Management Development System. In addition staff attended a range of internal and external training events, participating actively in the programme offered by the Quality Promotion Office - with one staff member completing the Springboard Women's Development Programme - and participating in a number of external training events organized by various bodies. A number of staff attended national and international conferences and staff were active in various committees, presenting at conferences and publishing.

Elaine Bean

Membership(s)

Secretary, NUIM Partnership Committee

Mary Antonesa

Membership(s)

Committee member, CONUL Working Group on Information Skills

Member, Library Association of Ireland

Committee member, CONUL Advisory Group on Information Literacy

Committee member, ANLTC sub-committee on Continued Professional Development

Publications(s)

Sourcing information for your thesis (with Helen Fallon) in *Researching and writing your thesis: a guide for postgraduate students*, Mary Antonesa, Helen Fallon, Anne B. Ryan, et al. Maynooth: Maynooth Adult and Community Education (MACE), 2006. p. 46-56.

Presentation(s)

VLEs and Irish Universities, Systems and Practices, Irish Universities Information Systems Colloquium (IUISC) March 24, 2006.

Susan Durack

Membership(s)

Committee member, Irish National and University Libraries (INULS)

Presentation(s)

Local History: getting started and published. Presentation in Maynooth public library, October 2005.

Helen Fallon

Membership(s)

Committee member, ANLTC (Academic and National Library Training Co-operative)

Committee member, LIR HEAnet User Group for Libraries

Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Member, All Ireland Society for Higher Education (AISHE)

Member, Education Developers Ireland Network (EDIN)

Publication(s)

Back to Africa: Setting up a library at the Environmental Foundation for Africa. *Update*, Vol. 5(1/2) 2006, p.54-55.

Publishing in post-war Sierra Leone. *Focus on International Library and Information Work*, Vol. 36(3), 2005, p.109-110.

Sourcing information for your thesis (with Mary Antonesa) in *Researching and writing your thesis: a guide for postgraduate students* by Mary Antonesa, Helen Fallon, Anne B. Ryan, Anne Ryan, et al. Maynooth: Maynooth Adult and Community Education (MACE), 2006, p.46-56.

Bernadette Gardiner

Membership(s)

Member, ALEPH User Group - UK and Ireland

Member, Forum for Interlending and Information Delivery (FIL)

Mary Kearney

Membership(s)

Committee member, IRIS Consortium Purchasing Group

Committee member, IReL Steering Group

Pauline Murray

Membership(s)

Committee member, Acquisitions Group of Ireland (AGI)

Elizabeth Murphy

Membership(s)

Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Member, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

Committee member, CONUL Sub-Committee on Copyright and Regulatory Matters

Committee member, CONUL Sub-Committee to survey information needs of researchers

Committee member, Chester Beatty Library Membership Programme

Contact Person: Policy on the Protection of the Dignity of Staff and Students

Agnes Neligan

Membership(s)

Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Member, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

Chair, Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL)

Member, CHIU Librarians' Group

Member, Executive Board Society of College National and University Libraries (SCONUL)

Member, Sub-committee on infrastructures, RIA Working Group on the Humanities and Social Sciences

Linda Noonan
Membership(s)

Member, Library Association of Ireland

Member, ALEPH User Group - UK and Ireland

Etaín Ó Siocháin

Membership(s)

Member, Coiste na Gaeilge, NUI Maynooth

Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Dámh an Léinn Cheiltigh: Ionadaí an Leabharlannaí

Committee Member, Faculty of Celtic Studies

Publication(s)

As a member of the Meitheal (Irish language) group of the Library Association of Ireland, was involved in producing an Irish language version of web OPAC terms.

Valerie Payne

Membership(s)

Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Member, Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP)

Committee Member, Acquisitions Group of Ireland (AGI)

Suzanne Redmond Malocco

Membership(s)

Member, Steering Committee for Technical Staff Development

Presentation(s)

Maynooth ePrint Archive, ANLTC seminar, National Library of Ireland, 9 February, 2006.

Regina Richardson

Membership(s)

Member, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Valerie Seymour

Membership(s)

Member, Rare Books Group Library Association of Ireland

Member, CONUL Working Party on Legal Deposit

Member, CONUL Working Party on Theses

Representative of NUI Maynooth on Maynooth Action Strategy Steering Group

Andrew Sliney

Membership(s)

Member, Partnership Committee, NUIM

Penny Woods

Membership(s)

Committee member, Rare Books Group, Library Association of Ireland (LAI)

Committee member, Association of Church Archivists of Ireland (ACAI)

Committee member, Preservation Microfilm Users' Group, Ireland (PMUGI)

Committee member, Maynooth Medieval Forum

Presentation(s)

Conference Papers/Presentations' Religious libraries: organisation, care and historical importance'

Presentation at the Archives Summer School held by the Association of Church Archivists of Ireland (ACAI), 3-7 July 2006, at the Mercy International Centre, Dublin.

Statistics

	2005/06	2004/05	2003/04	2002/03	2001/02
Services					
Registered borrowers	7,130	7,000	7,000	7,000	6,889
Items borrowed	130,137	145,451	156,554	154,942	165,166
Items requested on inter-library loan	1,100	1,914	3,116	3,158	4,497
Items lent to other libraries	188	200	233	216	360
Enquiries	21,149	27,913	18,706	13,185	11,467
Student orientation and training	3,330	2,700	3,245	2,149	2,068
Searches of online sources	305,016	234,455	147,665	208,119	203,299
Articles downloaded	136,122	102,150	73,398	58,320	27,963
Readers & visitors to the Russell	1,226	1,221	1,502	1,286	1,161
Copies made	1,891,188	2,007,473	2,066,365	1,726,426	1,505,199
Items reshelved	295,822	297,822	305,884	305, 893	303,007
Study places					
John Paul II Library	680	680	680	680	669
Workstations, John Paul II Library	52	52	52	52	46
Russell Library	28	28	28	28	28
Arts Building	128	128	128	128	128
Collection					
Books purchased	4,265	3,779	4,724	4,771	5,137
Books received on copyright	1,312	1,545	1,288	1,321	1,462
Irish Government Publications	3,678	3,274	3,203	2,740	2,768
Donations	14,600	5,000	3,000	893	588
Print periodicals purchased	602	627	732	860	876
Online periodicals	16,000	9,000	8,640	5,750	5,500
Copyright Periodicals	758	766	768	685	774
Donations, Exchange Periodicals	177	190	190	180	196
Volumes catalogued	7,295	11,839	8,164	7,262	7,821
Total stock	455,000	452,500	442,500	430,500	420,416
Income					
Grant	€907,200	€857,700	€743,600	€818,808	€930,464
Other income	€274,280	€313,779	€250,223	€309,621	€320,065
Total:	**€1,181,480**	**€1,171,479**	**€993,824**	**€1,128,430**	**€1,160,530**
Expenditure					
Books	€249,062	€255,484	€278,541	€260,814	€245,014
Print periodicals	€266,319	€235,905	€366,744	€317,591	€350,556
Electronic information	€296,176	€258,917	€163,005	€207,864	€225,581
Salaries	€1,832,486	€1,884,020	€1,645,396	€1,539,046	€1,415,661
Operating costs	€369,923	€375,924	€303,974	€385,417	€348,482
Total:	**€3,013,966**	**€3,010,250**	**€2,757,660**	**€2,710,732**	**€2,585,294**