

Library Newsletter for Colleges

Te Putanga ki te Ao Mātauranga

Introduction

Kia ora koutou katoa,

This newsletter to the Colleges covers the period August to October 2025. The University Librarian's report to our recent October meeting documented the numerous activities undertaken across our library spaces to celebrate Te Wiki o Te Reo Māori, and Pasifika Language weeks, and it was great to see enthusiastic engagement from staff and students with the activities on offer. This newsletter also introduces new library staff. At Library Advisory Committee we receive frequent feedback on the expertise and helpfulness of library staff and the services on offer. You will find details of forthcoming library workshops at the end of this newsletter.

Library negotiations with publishers for journal and book collections are a regular occurrence and can impact the resources available to library users as publisher costs rise and publisher packages are altered. This newsletter also highlights changes in e-textbook availability and also celebrates Massey's first open-access textbook published on Pressbooks and supported by library staff. Staff are encouraged to contact their subject librarians when considering new textbooks to ensure availability for students.

As this is our last newsletter for the year, I would like to take the opportunity to thank all our library staff for the excellent service they provide.

Ngā mihi nui



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Wiley e-textbook subscription model is changing

The Library has been advised of a change to how the publisher Wiley provides access to e-textbooks.

Wiley is moving their e-textbooks to a subscription-only model for libraries. This means the Massey University Library would have to pay every year for access to Wiley's entire e-textbook collection and this isn't sustainable. The Library would not retain any permanent access to titles if the subscription was cancelled.

If you choose a Wiley textbook for your course, the Library may be unable to provide an electronic version of the textbook. Wiley e-textbooks the library has already purchased should not be affected. Students will still be able to buy individual access to Wiley e-textbooks.

The Library is always happy to check the access options for textbooks you are considering. [Contact your subject librarian](#) or email library@massey.ac.nz.

This move is part of a trend of ebook publishers moving away from providing perpetual access to individual titles. Earlier this year the publisher and content aggregator Proquest announced they would be stopping the provision of one-time perpetual purchases of print books and ebooks, as well as their demand driven acquisitions (DDA) and evidence based acquisitions (EBA) programmes. Instead libraries will have to subscribe to entire collections.

Annual subscriptions to a very large collection of titles is a common model with academic journals and can cause serious problems for libraries. Typically a large proportion of the titles are not used or have minimal use, but the value of some titles means that libraries are reluctant to cancel. In an electronic subscription model the price paid is for access not ownership making libraries more reluctant to cancel. Publishers can take advantage of this to increase subscription costs.

First Library-supported open textbook published

In July, Massey's first ever open educational resource (OER) was published with support from the Library. The book is called [*Critical health psychology: foundations, approaches and applications*](#). It is openly licensed with a CC BY-NC license which means it is free to use, download, share, and adapt on the condition that attribution is given to the editors and authors and it is used in a non-commercial manner. Massey News has published an [in-depth article](#) about the book.

The Library supported the two-year project by funding the book shell, providing copyright and licensing advice and investigations, reference checking, book formatting assistance in Pressbooks, and some H5P development.

Thanks to Information & Research Services staff Jane Clark, Elizabeth Sturrock and Katherine Chisholm who worked closely with the academics on this project to bring the published open-access textbook to fruition. The Library has published a Library out Loud blog post, [A Massey open textbook – how the Library helped](#) which gives further detail about their role in the project.



Photo: Critical Health Psychology – the first open-access textbook supported by the Library.

Celebrating Māori and Pasifika Language Weeks

In The Library hosts events, exhibitions and displays throughout the year to celebrate and honour Te Wiki o te Reo Māori and Pasifika Language weeks. Event details are shared closer to the time via the Library's social media and communication channels.

This year's Te Wiki o te Reo Māori activities included kaitaki (shared kai) and kōrero, book displays, games including Ketukupu (scrabble), Toastie Tuesday (with ingredient labels translated into te reo Māori) and more.

The Library also honoured Rotuman Language Week, Tonga Language Week and Vanuatu Language Week with vibrant displays.



Photo: Chalk art at the Manawatū Campus Library



New appointments

The Library pleased to introduce two new team members who have recently joined the Library.



Dr Norasia Md Amin (Nora) was appointed as Subject Librarian in September and is based at the Auckland Library. Nora supports students and staff from both the Colleges of Sciences and College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Here is a link to Nora's [Expertise Profile](#).



Jo Sullivan (Te Aupōuri) joined the Library team in July and is the Kaiwhakarato Pārongo Rangahau Māori – Māori Services Librarian. Jo is based at the Manawatū Library.

Discover's New Natural Language Search

Discover now offers an AI-powered 'natural language' search option. This means that searchers can enter a phrase or question instead of the keywords the Library usually recommends for an effective search.

AI is only being used to enhance the relevance of the search results, so there is no need to declare it when submitting assignments.

A [Library Out Loud](#) blog post contains more information on this new feature.



Library workshops for you and your students

In October the Library has upcoming classes on Zotero and EndNote. The November sessions on *Getting Started with Finding Information from the Library*, *Finding information on my Topic* and *More on Topic Searching* are timed for the beginning of summer school. We encourage you to promote these classes to your students, especially if you do not have a library class scheduled for your course.

Book here: [Classes and Workshops](#)

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