

Library Newsletter for Colleges Te Putanga ki te Ao Mātauranga

Tēnā koutou katoa. Welcome to the first of our newsletters, intended to keep you up to date with Massey University Library Te Putanga ki te Ao Mātauranga happenings across our three campuses. We will be sending out this newsletter 3 – 4 times a year, to provide a summary of the significant issues we discuss on the University Library Committee. We also envisage using this newsletter to respond to staff queries and feedback given to your Library Committee College representatives. We hope you find this first newsletter helpful – it covers the Library policy on ebooks, the findings of the 2018 staff survey, and new initiatives to support academic staff.

Ngā mihi



Juliana Mansvelt
Chair, Library Committee

FOCUS ON EBOOKS

Allowing unprecedented access to information published in book format, ebooks are highly used at Massey University Library but it is acknowledged they can also cause frustrations for some users.

Ebooks by the numbers

- About 70% of the Library's budget is now spent on ebooks
- The Library has more than 600,000 ebooks from quality publishers
- In 2018 there were over 2,300,000 'section requests' i.e. uses, compared to 120,000 checkouts of print books

Staff and student feedback

- Student feedback confirms high use. The majority of verbatim comments from students in the 2017 Insync survey were positive, with requests for more ebooks (particularly by Distance students); two comments noted a preference for print
- Academic staff feedback indicates a preference for print books for cover to cover in-depth reading; ebooks are preferred for searching for a particular topic within the book
- 60% of staff very strongly agree that ebooks play a very important role in their research and teaching (Ithaka S+R Faculty Survey 2018). 29% moderately agree with this statement

Library purchasing

- The first copy of a book is purchased as an ebook where available and if it meets criteria with regard to platform, usability, and digital rights management
- Unlimited simultaneous users, preferably on publisher platforms, are preferred
- Many print books are still purchased (including NZ, Māori, Pasifika and Creative Arts content)
- Ebook purchasing models allow for a significant increase in titles available, with those being well used added to the collection on a permanent basis – this is Evidence Based Acquisition (EBA)
- Evidence Based Collections include: Cambridge University Press (from 2015); Elsevier (a large number of subject collections); Emerald; Oxford University Press; Springer (from 2016); Taylor & Francis; Wiley (except reference materials and textbooks); World Scientific (except reference materials and textbooks)

Advantages

- EBA means purchases are based on evidence of need/use rather than "just in case"
- Ebooks do not go out of print, eliminating the urgency to purchase titles with limited print runs
- Ebooks are available instantly to all and can be usually used by more than one person at a time

Disadvantages

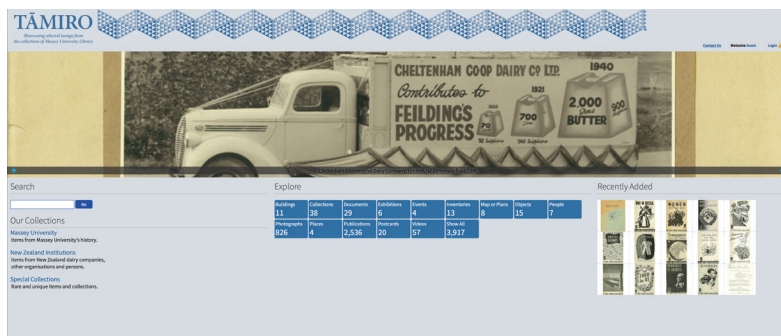
- It is known and understood that not all ebook platforms are particularly user-friendly
- Academic ebooks are still developing, including gradual moves to formats that are compatible with ereaders
- The Library actively works to minimise ebook complexity, but certainly acknowledges there are challenges due to the multiple suppliers and their different interfaces. Help and guidance is available on the Library's website, and subject librarians are also available to assist

View our short online demonstration: [HERE](#)

Explore help on using and downloading ebooks: [HERE](#)

TĀMIRO WEBSITE REDESIGNED [HERE](#)

Tāmiro showcases selected taonga from the collections of Massey University Library. The homepage has been redesigned and improvements made to the structure of the site. Recently digitised material added includes: the Massey University Calendar (1920s to present); the University's Annual Report (1920s to present); and Chaff, the Massey University student newspaper (1934-2011).



ITHAKA S+R MASSEY UNIVERSITY FACULTY SURVEY 2018

The Library undertook this internationally based survey to get a deeper understanding of the attitudes and practices of academics and to inform decision-making around strategic planning of service delivery. The response rate of 25% was similar to the response at other NZ universities

Key findings from the survey showed that academics at Massey University:

- have a variety of ways of researching and keeping up-to-date with current scholarship, usually starting with general search engines (e.g. Google Scholar) followed by specialist databases and the Library's website or catalogue. The starting point is rarely from the physical library
- consider electronic journals, and electronic and print scholarly monographs, are important for research and teaching
- are comfortable with electronic resources, and print monographs are used for reading in depth and comparing treatments of ideas
- rely on a variety of sources for journal articles and scholarly monographs for research and teaching, with the Library's collections the most important sources for research and teaching
- report that open access, open source or freely available instructional resources play a very important part in their teaching
- consider improving undergraduate and postgraduate ability to locate and evaluate scholarly information is an important educational goal in courses taught, and believe that Library staff contribute significantly to students' learning
- share and publish scholarly research primarily via traditional channels
- believe that library buildings and library staff are still important, even though scholarly material is available online
- overall make low use of the University's institutional repository for most material types (with a possible a mismatch between what staff say they deposit into Massey Research Online mro.massey.ac.nz/ and actual practice)
- don't often engage with the Library in selecting material for course reading lists.

A number of initiatives to support academics are planned:

To support Learning & Teaching:

- lead the development of a Digital Literacies Framework for Massey University in partnership with NCTL, ITS, academic staff and students
- develop and deliver a Massey University Library integrated librarian programme to support information literacy and to address graduate and employability attributes
- appointment of a Pasifika Librarian to lead Library staff in service delivery to Pasifika clients

- investigate the implementation of pop-up real-time chat to support library clients accessing online resources
- develop greater understanding about the content/texts that academic staff choose in order to assist with selection options for the curriculum.

To support Research:

- improve specialist support for scholarly profiles, and researchers' impact reporting needs
- develop targeted support for Early Career Researchers
- improve Māori and Pasifika Research support, with a tailored 'Researcher Development Library Workshop' offering for Māori and Pasifika researchers
- continue work on Research Data Management services
- promote the use of Massey Research Online for making research outputs open access (where not restricted by copyright)
- promote Library advice to support increased discoverability of research outputs and support increased citations
- investigate an Open Journal Publishing Platform to improve Massey University's open access publishing processes (Massey University produced journals)

NEW TITLES ON THE LIBRARY WEBSITE

The Library is undertaking work to ensure that ebook titles appear alongside print resources in their college-specific groupings. Currently new titles can be explored from the carousel at the bottom of the Library home page or via the new titles page.

SUBJECT LIBRARIANS ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST YOU WITH:

- Research services for all points of the research life cycle
- Teaching support that develops student information skills and maximises use of library resources
- Expert and responsive services and support for your students at all levels

Subject Librarians supporting your College: [HERE](#)

Research services: [HERE](#)