

Report from the Library Users' Group: Academic Year 2003 – 4

Meetings: The inaugural meeting of the Library Users' Group was held on 21 November 2003. Two further meetings were held on 16 January and 12 March 2004. The following items were raised.

Extended Library Opening Hours: The Librarian was asked to consider extending the library opening hours on Saturday during the final 5 weeks of each semester and for the Saturday of the first week after Christmas outside of semester.

Membership of the Library for College Graduates: The Librarian was asked to consider the possibility of some form of library service for graduates of the college.

Library Space: Problems caused by lack of library space were raised and discussed.

Joint UL/MIC Electronic Journals Holdings: A combined searchable listing of the electronic journal holdings of MIC and UL was made available through the catalogues and web pages of both libraries.

Refworks Bibliographic Software: Joint purchase was made by MIC library, MIC computer Services and the University of Limerick of a license for Refworks, a bibliographic software package. Refworks is available through the library web page.

Increase Loans for Final Year BA Students: The loan allocation for final year BA students was increased from 5 to 10 items to allow for project preparation.

Loan of Textbooks: Textbooks are no longer restricted to library use only. They can be borrowed for 4 hours.

CD Readers: 2 additional PCs with CD readers were made available within the library to view oral history material.

MIC/UL Library Joint Information Skills Project: The object of this joint project is the development of an Information Skills Programme with modules which will cater for undergraduate and postgraduate students at MIC and UL.

Spine Letter Project: This project should make book retrieval from the shelves easier. It involves the inclusion of the first three letters of the authors name along with the dewey class number on the spine of all library stock.

Copyright Licence: Negotiations are ongoing between the Conference of Heads of Irish Universities (CHIUI) Copyright Working Group and the Irish Copyright Licensing Agency (ICLA) on the terms of a copyright licence for Irish Libraries.

Storage of Books and Journals: It was recommended that in cases of restricted space where an electronic version of a journal is available the print version could be considered for removal to one of the library stores.