

James Hardiman Library

National University of
Ireland, Galway

Librarian's Report for
2007/2008

Marie Reddan



Table of Contents

Vision and Mission Statement.....	4
The year in Brief	5
<i>Marie Reddan, Librarian (to September 1st, 2008)</i>	8
Library Finances	9
Library Materials and Operations Budget.....	9
<i>Books and Journals</i>	9
<i>Library Operations</i>	10
<i>Special Research Fund</i>	10
<i>Inter Library Loans</i>	10
Library Staffing	11
Training and Development:	11
Recruitment and Staff Changes	11
Bibliographic Services Division	13
Financing Acquisitions in 2007/2008.....	13
Collections and acquisitions	13
Journals acquisitions and expenditure.....	15
Binding Services.....	16
Inter-Library Loans Service	16
Cataloguing.....	17
<i>Reclassification Project</i>	18
<i>NUI Galway's Institutional Repository</i>	18
<i>Stocktaking</i>	18
Notable Acquisitions.....	19
Readers Services Division	20
Highlights for the period under review	20
Circulation Statistics.....	21
Photocopying Services.....	22
Assistive Technology Service	22
Special Collections & Archives Acquisitions.....	23
Exhibitions and Events	24
Information Services Division	26
Services, Resources and Activities.....	26
Collection and Content Development	26
Information Librarians Faculty Liaison.....	26
Information Literacy.....	26
Supporting Research.....	27
Supporting the University.....	27
Sub-Librarian's activity	27
Medical Library	28
Nursing Library	29
Library Systems Division.....	30
New Digitisation Service.....	30
Institutional Repository	30
Verde.....	31

ARC.....	31
Maintenance activities.....	31
E-Knowledge E-Resource Portal.....	31
Other Developments.....	31
Space and Environment	32
Health and Safety	32
Library Publications	32
Staff Publications and External Presentations.....	33
Memberships / Committee Memberships (External)	35
Library Staff Attendance at Conferences & External Meetings:	38

Vision and Mission Statement

Vision Statement

The Library is the cultural and knowledge centre of the university, playing a key role in research, teaching and learning, supporting and enriching the strategic aims of the University and serving an increasingly diverse user population.

Providing a quality service in a welcoming physical and virtual environment will always be our priority.

We envisage a physical environment, which stimulates learning, reflects the needs of 21st century library users, and in which all take enormous pride.

We will be creative and innovative in the use of technology to enrich access to collections and services regardless of place and time.

We will work with other partners to achieve University, regional and national goals.

Mission Statement

The Library proactively supports and enhances the learning, teaching and research activities of the University by providing access for all its users to quality information resources and services.

The year in Brief

Last year ended on a very dramatic note, with the fire in the Library basement and the complete closure of the Library for the first days of the new academic year. The final report on the fire from the Buildings Office could not pinpoint a definite cause, the most likely, as noted in the report, being a short circuit due to a breakdown on one of the copper to aluminium connectors on the outgoing cables. Suffice to say that lessons were learnt, and preventative measures have now been put in place, to ensure that we never again come so close to a disaster. Our thanks once more to the swift response of Library staff on duty on the night, to both Buildings Office and Security staff and to the Fire Service.

The end of 07/08 brought good news for the Library, with the announcement by Dr James Browne, President of the University, of a new Humanities and Social Sciences Library. This is a wonderful endorsement of the University's commitment to enhancing services for staff, students and researchers and a tribute also to the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies, which supported enhanced library space as their single priority in the University's submission for PRTL15 funding. Thanks also, to the great work of the Library Space Working Group; to its Chair Dr Elizabeth FitzPatrick; and to Library staff who worked so patiently to support the case with strongly researched evidence.

The new staff structures to support the changes sought from the Library's Quality Review were further progressed during the year. Immediate benefits from the start of the new academic year will be the introduction of the new Customer Services point in the refurbished foyer, and a new Information Office on the ground floor focusing on teaching and learning support.

Finally, the Library's Strategic Plan for 2007-2010 was launched in July by the President of the University. The plan reflects priorities highlighted in the Library's Quality Review which set out a number of key aims and objectives. It outlines objectives and key initiatives to date, reporting on progress under most of the headings.

Staff Development – The Deputy Librarian's report on *Staff Training and Development* will highlight the excellent work of the Staff Development Group in organizing and monitoring a range of initiatives. Of particular note, was the publication of a formal Staff Induction Programme, which ensured a comprehensive introduction to the Library for new employees. The involvement of Library staff in events at local and national level both as participants and contributors continues as strongly as ever.

Service Enhancement – A new *Marketing Group* was established this year, to ensure that the Library was using all available means to get its message heard. Orientation was only one of the areas addressed, but a revamped programme was very positively received, with 1,350 attending the sessions.

This year also, Reader Services along with Bibliographic Services, Information Services, and Library Systems collaborated in drawing up a *Library Customer Charter*. It is hoped that this will be fully endorsed and published early in the new academic year.

The value of the *Exams Papers Database* to students has been fully acknowledged, and its enhancement the subject of much discussion. Following a successful collaboration between MIS, the Exams Office, Computer Services, the Students Union and the Library to progress this, the new Management Information Systems database will provide access to papers from 2007/2008 onwards, with the Library continuing to offer access to the previous four years on the existing Library database – but over time the latter will be phased out.

This year also saw the Library consolidate its online learning presence with two very exciting innovations. The first, the *Virtual Learning Centre*, will be the central area for quick online tutorials covering many practical library topics, and is designed as a supplement to training sessions offered by the Library. The second is *LARK Online (Library and Research Knowhow)*, which is designed to introduce students to information literacy and research skills and is aimed at undergraduates.

The views of the Customer – this year it was the turn of the Research community to voice its opinions on Library Service in the *Library Research Support Survey* held in April 2008 (previous surveys were run in 2003 and 2005). The response rate was 29% – up from 26% in 2005. Key findings noted:

- A big increase in online access from home - up threefold from the 2005 figures – with much greater satisfaction with off-campus access
- Much stronger awareness of IReL than in 2005.
- Greater use of online journals by researchers - up by 8% to 89%
- The top 4 training areas required are: exploiting IReL and other online resources; using *EndNote* to manage references and bibliographies; publishing and disseminating research; journal impact factors.
- The environment of the Library building is not conducive to research according to 58.4% of respondents.
- Almost three quarters of respondents would value dedicated research space in the Library building.
- Lower satisfaction with the Library website than in 2005, particularly in terms of ease of navigation
- In relation to services, general satisfaction levels have fallen slightly and that the library needs to publicise its services better.

Work is in hand on issues raised, but the information provided to guide the process is invaluable. My thanks as ever, to the Deputy Librarian for his work in leading the survey.

Supporting Research - At national level work continues on the collaborative Graduate Information Skills Programme funded by SIF, which on completion will make a major contribution to the quality of research output at the University.

The value of the Research Support Librarian for Science, Technology and Medicine is now very evident to the Research community and feedback is most positive on the outreach programme in place, the direct support to researchers and also on the quality of content on the *Research Information Gateway*. Information Librarians in other disciplines, continue to give invaluable support to graduate students. Meanwhile, we

hope to make an appointment of a second Research Support Librarian to support Humanities and Social Sciences at the beginning of the new Academic year.

Also very well received was the conference organized by the Library and the Research Support Librarian in January of 2008 which attracted over 100 delegates from Ireland and overseas on the topic of *Research Publication & Dissemination – the Future?*

The Library has now received funding for a half time post as part of an IUA Librarians' Group successful SIF bid, for the creation of an ***Institutional Repository*** in each of the universities. With some internal restructuring, the Library has been able to advertise the position as a full-time 3-year contract and expand the brief to cover digitisation. Again, it is hoped that an appointment can be made in time for the new academic year.

Another support to the Research community (although not exclusively restricted as such) was the acquisition of a state-of-the art *Kirtas* book scanner (in conjunction with the Moore Institute), which gives Galway the honour of being the only University and Library Institution outside of the British Library to have such a facility. The scanner was acquired, as a result of a successful bid to the HEA equipment fund grant 2007, by the Moore Institute partnered by the Library. The scanner will be housed in the Library; is extremely powerful; and will facilitate the Library & Moore Institutes' involvement in digitisation projects.

Library Space and Environment - Mention has been made of the decision to move ahead on the planned expansion of the Library, and the role of the Working Group on Library Space in this – but mention should also be made of the survey of Postgraduates on Library Space which took place in Spring of the year. The response rate was high - especially by PhDs, and the results provided substantial evidence on the needs of this Group. One particular finding of note was that "...83% of respondents considered a stimulating research environment important; however 66% expressed dissatisfaction at this library facility ...". Once again, I would like to thank the Deputy Librarian for his valuable work on the survey.

Foyer refurbishment - In advance of any new building, essential refurbishment of the Library Foyer took place in the summer of 2008. It is to the credit of the Head of Readers Services, that the Library continued to function and emerge to most positive comments on the improvements achieved – all within a space of six weeks.

Nursing Library - Work on the Nursing Library extension commenced on Tuesday 12th August 2008 a projected finish date of early August 2009. As planned the contractors have commenced with the drilling of the foundations and other works to minimize the disruption to students during the academic year.

Special Events – The range of exhibitions and events organized by the Library (and Special Collections and Archives in particular) will be evident in reading the report which follows, and as always these provided the backdrop to some particularly memorable occasions. Two highly successful *Friends of the Library* events were held, one in December and the second in March – the latter to honour Joe Burke, the traditional musician on the occasion of his gift to the

Library of his personal papers. As an added bonus, a capacity audience had the pleasure of hearing Joe Burke himself in concert on the night.

At a very enjoyable ceremony in June, the President of the University, Dr. James Browne accepted the papers of the former late professor of history, Dr G.A. Hayes-McCoy from Ms Felicity Hayes-McCoy on behalf of the family, and was followed by Professor Nicholas Canny, Vice-President for Research with an address on the significance of the collection for the University and the Library.

In August, the Library had the pleasure of meeting with the daughters of Proinnsias Mac An Bheatha - Eilís and Máire Mac An Bheatha - to acknowledge and celebrate the generous gift to the Library of their father's papers. The Library also celebrated the acquisition of the Simpson / Colgan papers – a valuable addition to the Theatre archives in the Library.

A personal pleasure was the honour of presenting Martin O'Malley, 61st Governor of Maryland, on the occasion of his conferring of the Degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causa*, in June 2008.

Staff Contribution – Somehow, these reports have grown a bit like Topsy over the years, but only because of the breadth of activity going on in the Library, and I want to pay tribute to this – in what is my last Annual Report (I retired on September 1st 2008). Only on looking back on my almost seventeen years, do I fully appreciate the changes that have taken place, and the positive position in which the Library now finds itself. Only through people could these changes have taken place. I am very proud of the achievements of the Library staff – I hope that they are also - and I would like to thank each and every one of them for their support and contribution during my time as Librarian at NUI Galway.

A very special thanks to my Deputy Librarian John Cox – who has been such a great colleague and a tireless and innovative campaigner for the Library. He will move effortlessly to Acting Librarian when I go, and I wish him every success and pleasure in the role. A big thanks also to my senior staff team, Ann Mitchell, Monica Crump, Peter Corrigan and Niall McSweeney – they have all been such a pleasure to work with – I count myself very lucky. Their presence and contribution on a national and international level is evident in the final pages of the report – it is to their credit that they can balance all of this with the endless demands on the home front.

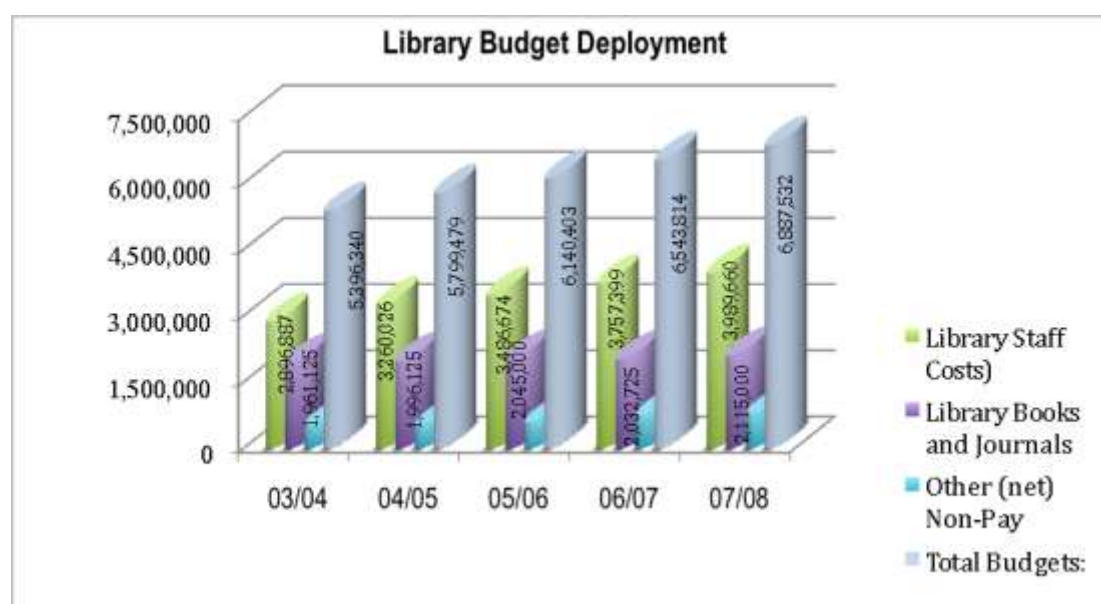
A really special thanks to the staff of “the Librarian's Office” – Mary and Aoife (and Niamh – although not entirely ‘mine’) who, while not at the coalface most of the time are very much the unsung heroes. They make it all happen – and make it look easy and with a smile – but believe me – it isn't!

I have had the pleasure of many wonderful events to celebrate my retirement – with treasured memories from all of them. Thanks to all members of Library Committee and the various sub-groups of Library Committee and in particular, to the Registrar as Chair, for their time, expertise and ongoing support to the Library. Last but not least – to my University Colleagues – it has been a pleasure to work at NUI Galway and I know that I shall miss it greatly.

Marie Reddan, Librarian (to September 1st, 2008)

Library Finances

The 07/08 University grant to the Library was **€6,887,532** – an increase of 5% over last year's base budget of **€6,543,814** (€6,554,814 following adjustments). This has been allocated as follows: €3,989,660 for salaries, €782,872 for operations, and €2,115,000 for books and journals – a small increase on last year's books and journals budget. In addition to this, a generous €67,270 was made available to the Library by various academic departments for specific purposes.

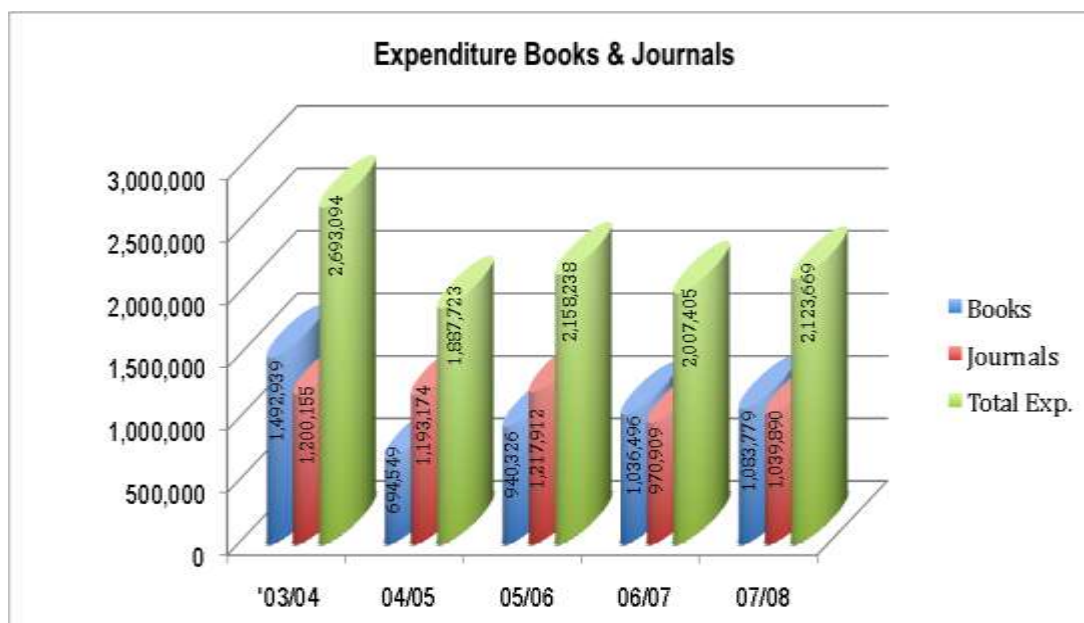


Library Materials and Operations Budget

Books and Journals

Of the total Library non-pay allocation, €2,115,000 was allocated for the purchase of books and journals, (€2,032,725 in 06/07). This represents 73% of the overall non-pay budget including areas of excellence – the same as last year. The books and journals budget is slightly greater than that allocated last year, so at least the trend is in the right direction.

Overall expenditure on books and journal subscriptions was €2,123,669. Expenditure on books and non-print media amounted to €1,083,779 which is an increase of 4.56%. Expenditure on journals and other subscriptions increased by 7.1%, with an overall spend on journals of €1,039,890 - 49% of the overall materials expenditure - more detail in the Bibliographic Services section, which follows.



Library Operations

€584,334 (net of income) was spent on Main Library operations and services including binding and preservation costs but excluding Inter Library Loans acquisitions. The income from fines, photocopying etc. contributed €164,664 to operations and services costs.

Special Research Fund

The Special Research fund this year was €13,350. The take-up was much better than last year, with grants to the value of €9,089 approved. The balance of €4,261 was transferred to the general library acquisitions fund.

Inter Library Loans

A budget of €70,000 (net) was allocated for inter library loans, with final expenditure on acquisitions amounting to €64,746

Library Staffing

Training and Development:

The Staff Development and Training Group (SDTG) formed in 2006 continued to be the prime mover in a range of initiatives in this area. The Group was unceasing in its efforts to promote staff development through the planning, hosting and evaluation of events, the creation and roll out of policy documents and the provision of support to staff undertaking the University HR Supervisory Development Programme or studying for a professional LIS qualification.

Membership of the Group was stable throughout the year and all concerned showed a huge commitment to promoting development and training. A particular focus was on creating a policy document embracing a range of areas, including responsibilities, needs identification, financial support, application procedures and follow-up. The last-named received further emphasis through the development of a form for reporting on training attended, facilitating further dialogue between managers and staff. Another vital initiative was the publication of a formal Staff Induction Programme, which ensured a comprehensive introduction to the Library for new employees.

The programme of events organised by the Group gave all staff an opportunity to participate in a range of learning opportunities and personal development activities. These included briefings from each division of the Library, presentations from leading research centres in the University and informal coffee-time events. Topics ranged from a series of practical overviews of web 2.0 technologies to digital photography and the ever-popular Christmas celebration.

In addition Library Staff also had an opportunity to attend courses run by the University HR Training Unit and by the Health and Safety Department. Staff attended conferences hosted on campus, notably the Irish Universities Quality Board on institutional research and the annual CELT conference, focused this year on critical thinking. The Library also organised on-site training, with many staff enjoying the benefits of expert training in Web 2.0 and team building for customer service. A concerted programme of training in the Microsoft Office suite also took place, some on site and some at PFH Technologies, the supplier of this training. Externally, staff also attended conferences on a diversity of topics, including information literacy, research evaluation, metadata and rare books.

The James Hardiman Library continued to provide work placements to a number of people as part of their LIS qualification requirements. In support of this scheme the SDTG devised a detailed programme, which will be followed henceforth, for those undertaking the six-week work experience programme here ahead of commencing their studies at UCD. Library staff in the receiving work areas provided a welcoming environment and excellent training to the participants who were fulsome in their appreciation of the opportunity afforded them.

Recruitment and Staff Changes

The post of Head of Bibliographic Services in the Senior Management Team was filled on a permanent basis, with Monica Crump appointed after a temporary period in this post arising from a career break taken by its previous holder. The year saw two new posts created at Assistant Librarian grade. A second Research Support Librarian post, covering Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences was established on a three-year

contract, complementing a similar post for Science, Technology and Medicine. The other post, also for three years initially, and created through a combination of redeployment and Strategic Innovation Fund support, was titled Institutional Repository and Digitisation Librarian, enabling service development in two important and related areas. The opportunity to recruit a contract archivist for twelve months to execute specific listing projects was also very welcome.

Also new, although not additional as they were filled from within the existing Library Assistant complement, were two Team Leader positions, one in Bibliographic Services and the other in Reader Services. The latter was key in transitioning to, and managing, the new Customer Services Desk, while the former added a valuable supervisory layer in collection management and cataloguing. Support for the work of Information Services was strengthened by deployment to posts of Information Assistant for the science and arts disciplines. Other recruitment centred mainly on recruiting to existing posts, through staff departures, career breaks or job sharing; posts of Assistant Librarian in Collection Management, Commerce/External Liaison and Special Collections were among those filled as a result

Bibliographic Services Division

Financing Acquisitions in 2007/2008

The books and journals budget allocation for 2007/2008 was €2,115,000 an increase of 4% on the previous year. In addition to this a further €67,270 was generously made available to the Library by various Departments for specific purchases:

- Adult Education provided €2,657 for the purchase of material for a Science & Technology course,
- The Registrar's Office provided €38,927 for a subscription to SCOPUS,
- The Research Office provided €6,353 towards a subscription to Research,
- Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge provided €9,335 for the purchase of material for Acadamh off-campus centres.

In addition, €10,000 was allocated to Books and Journals from an award obtained through the Foundation Office for the Richie-Pickow photographic archive. Some of the funds granted to the Library by the Foundation Office in the past under the Martha Fox Bequest were transferred from the Books and Journals budget to the pay budget so as to fund an archivist to list the McGahern and other archival collections.

As in previous years, budget allocations to particular faculties were affected by changing student numbers, with the Medical Faculty (+12%) and Celtic Studies (+12%) seeing an increase in budget allocation this year, while the Law Faculty saw a decrease in its allocation (-10%). The amount allocated to both the Librarian's Discretionary Fund and the Special Research Fund was reduced by 2%, reflecting a reduction in demand in previous years and a desire to allocate as high a proportion of the overall budget as possible directly to Faculties and Academic Departments.

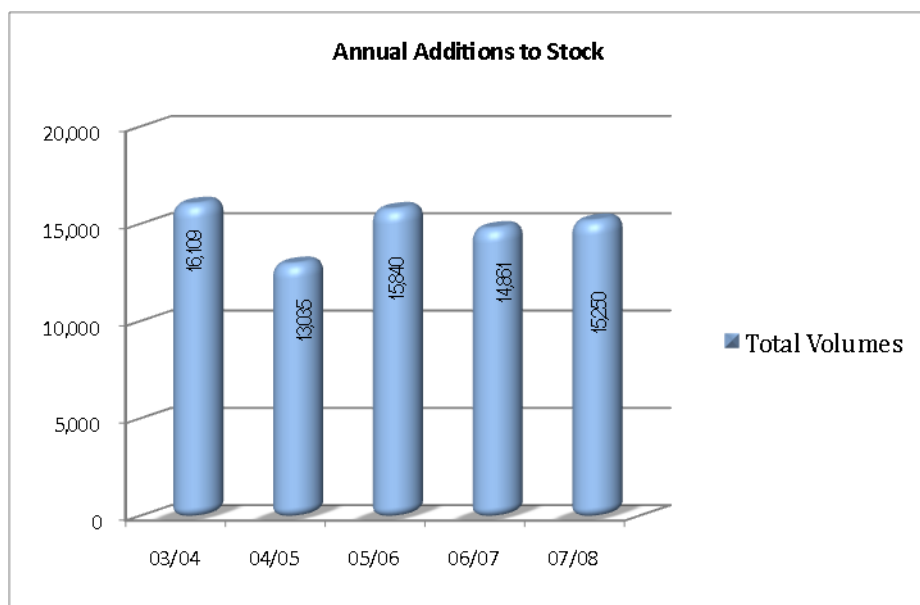
Books and non-print media to the value of €1,083,779 were purchased during 2007/2008. This is an increase of 4.56%. This expenditure included the purchase of some excellent online archival resources, which are listed under the *Notable Acquisitions* section below. In addition several online reference works for the Life Sciences were purchased.

Expenditure on journals and other subscriptions also increased by 7.1%, with an overall spend on journals of €1,039,890. Previous years had seen a decrease in journal spend (-20% in 2006/2007), as 'big deals' for publisher journal bundles funded by IReL, allowed many NUI Galway subscriptions to be cancelled. The increase in journal expenditure in 2007/2008 reflects the many new subscriptions we have been able to take on with the funds released by these cancellations. Indirectly as well as directly therefore, IReL is allowing us to continue to increase the breadth of resources available to our researchers and students.

Collections and acquisitions

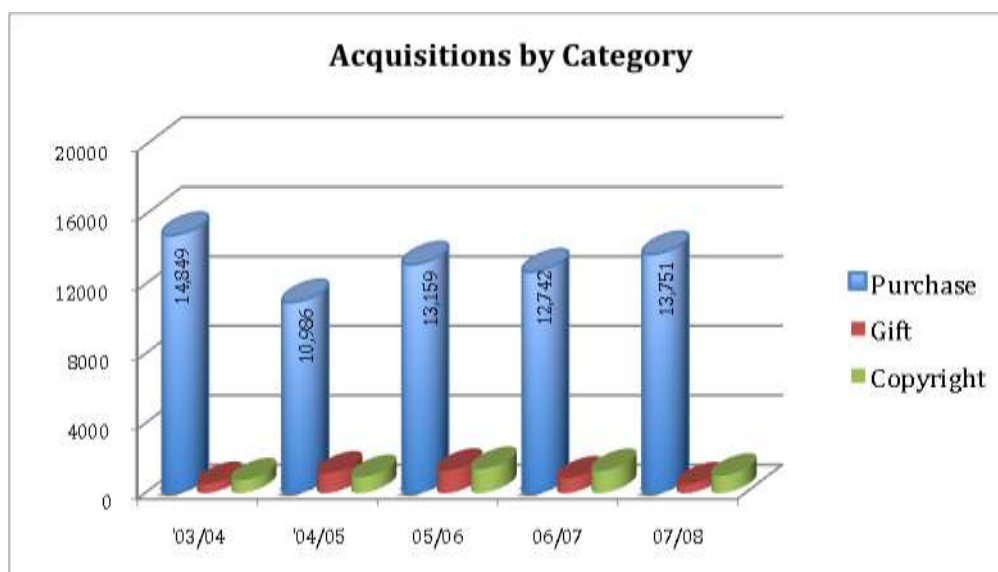
The number of monographs added to the collection in 2007/2008 increased from a relatively low level in 2006/2007, with the addition of 15,250 volumes to the collection (3% up on the previous year). This overall increase reflected an increase of

8% in the number of volumes purchased, with a continuing decline in the number of volumes received as donations (-41%) or through legal deposit (-22%). While on the surface this decline in 'free' acquisitions may be seen negatively, given the restrictions on storage space it is somewhat of a relief to see an increasing proportion of our collection being actively selected for acquisition rather than passively received as donations or through legal deposit. This ensures that our limited storage is being used for resources of most relevance to our users.



The introduction of an online book order system, through which members of academic or library staff can place requests for new book purchases greatly streamlined the process of order placement. The system also allows academic departments to monitor orders being placed against their budgets and so offers them an additional support to monthly expenditure reports to facilitate budget monitoring.

	Purchased	Donations	Legal Deposit	Total Rec'd	% selected
2007/2008	13751	499	1000	15250	90%
2006/2007	12742	842	1277	14861	86%
2005/2006	13159	1289	1392	15840	83%
2004/2005	10986	1130	919	13035	84%
2003/2004	14849	524	736	16109	92%



Summarising acquisitions: 13,751 by purchase, 499 gifts and 1,000 by legal deposit.

Journals acquisitions and expenditure

Following the conversion of a significant number of print subscriptions to online subscriptions in 2006/2007, this year has seen just a small further reduction (by 50 titles) in the number of print subscriptions held by the Library. However, there has been significant growth in our e-journal subscriptions (+41%), with any new journal requests being taken out as online subscriptions where possible. In addition, IReL added some new resources during 2006/2007, thus increasing the number of e-journals accessible to us via IReL (+7%). The number of journals now accessible online to the NUI Galway community is an impressive 31,092. This brings the total number of journals available (print and online) to 32,714. This represents an 81% increase since 2003 and a 12% increase over 2006/2007.

Growth in Journals availability at NUI Galway							
	03/04	04/05	05/06	06/07	07/08	% change 07 to 08	% change 04 to 08
Print Subs	2169	2016	1936	1672	1622	-3%	-25%
e-journals NUIG	13019	13011	9829	4959	7006	41%	-46%
e-jrls IReL paid by NUIG	273	782	782	782	776	-1%	184%
e-jrls IReL	2631	3983	15121	21699	23310	7%	786%
Total jrls accessible	18092	19792	27668	29112	32714	12%	81%
Total e-jrls	15923	17776	25732	27440	31092	13%	95%

Journal expenditure in 2007/2008 totalled €1,039,890, a 7% increase on last year which was significantly down on the previous year (-20%). So, through tough negotiations with publishers and constantly seeking opportunities for collaborative purchasing with other libraries, we managed to increase the overall number of journals which we acquire by subscription by 27%, while expenditure only increased by only 7%.

Binding Services

Following on from a bad year for binding in 2006/07 with the sudden closure of Reilly's Bookbinders, we managed to secure the safe return of our material in October 2007, which had been in Reilly's when they shut down. Some of this material was halfway through the binding process at this point and was therefore in a very fragile state, with the original binding removed and journal issues held together only very loosely. It was therefore a matter of some urgency to identify an alternative binder who could make our collection secure by finishing the binding. Two new binding firms were tested as future service providers – one in Ireland, the other in the UK, with the final choice being for Dundalk Bookbinders. In total in 2007/2008, 758 volumes were sent for external binding. This is a very sharp decrease (-38%) from the norm of previous years. The reduction in binding reflects a reduced emphasis on print journals. Our preferred method of providing long-term access to journal volumes is through secure, permanent online access, given the high cost of physical storage space and indeed handling costs in terms of staff time. Journal titles that are available securely and permanently online will no longer be sent for expensive binding.

This policy is also reflected in the reduced number of volumes stab bound in-house. 332 volumes were stab-bound in the library's in-house bindery, a reduction of 37% on the previous year (and down 54% on 05/06). The bindery staff time could therefore focus more on repair of books with a total of 1,409 volumes repaired during 07/08. This work results in a direct reduction in the cost of replacing damaged books and extends the life of heavily used textbooks.

The closure of Reilly's Bindery also caused problems for the Library's requirement for specialist conservation work. However, Mucros Bindery was identified as an alternative provider for this work and 407 volumes were sent there for conservation binding in 2007/2008.

Inter-Library Loans Service

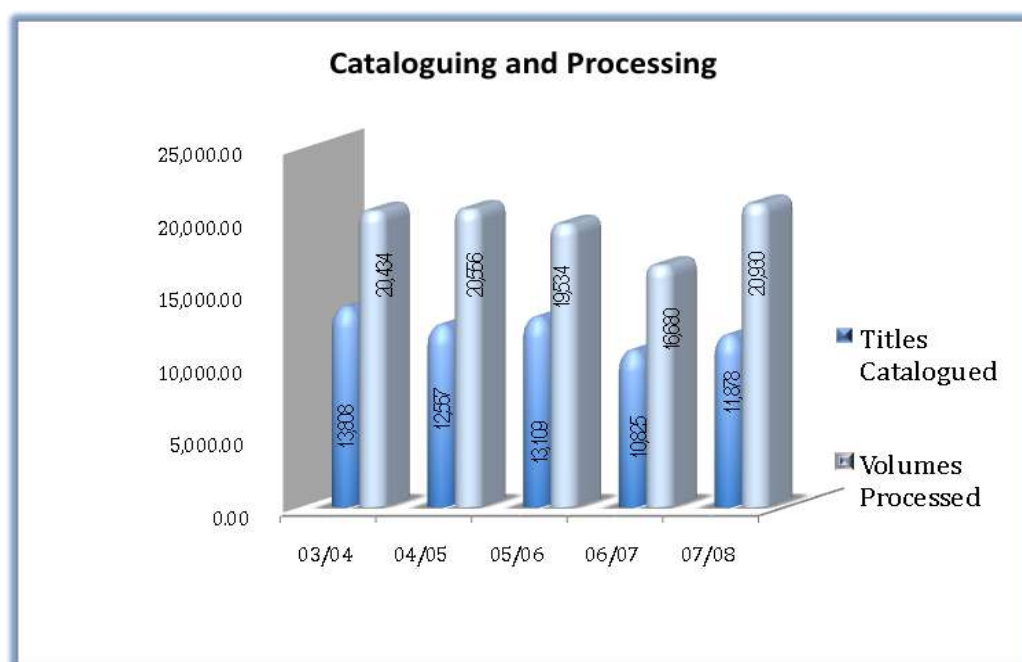
Demand for Inter-Library Loans continues to fall with an 8% reduction in the number of requests received in 2007/2008 (4,533 in total) compared to 2006/2007 (4,913). This, and the more dramatic decreases in previous years, is as a direct result of the huge increase in the number of journal titles directly available to our users through online subscriptions. The number of staff assigned to Inter-Library Loans was reduced by 33% in 2006 to reflect the reduction in demand (31% decrease in requests received between 2000 and 2005). However, the ongoing reduction in demand (51% decrease between 2000 and 2008) has allowed the remaining Inter-Library Loans staff to take on additional duties, processing and acknowledging material received under legal deposit, without affecting the excellent Inter-Library Loans service they provide.

Summary of Inter Library Loans Business for 07/08:

	2006-2007	2007-2008	% Change
Items Requested by NUI, Galway	4,913	4,533	-8%
Items Received by NUI, Galway	4,020	3,645	-9%
Items Supplied by NUI, Galway	201	223	+11%
% Supplied by Irish Libraries	25%	24%	-1%

Cataloguing

11,878 titles were catalogued during 2007/2008, a 9.7% increase on the previous year. During 2007/2008, we began purchasing books in many subject areas 'shelf-ready'. This involved outsourcing the full servicing of book material to our book suppliers. For many years, we have paid a small surcharge to book suppliers for servicing, which involved insertion of date labels, barcodes and security strips. In 2007/2008 we took this concept one step further, by providing the suppliers with the classification number we wished to appear on the label of books and asking them to affix the shelf label also. With this additional step, we eliminated the physical processing in-house for this material, thus ensuring that on arrival these books are literally 'shelf-ready', and immediately available to our users. Shelf-ready purchasing is only possible however when the correct classification number for the book can be selected in advance. This requires that a good quality catalogue record is available from OCLC, which contains a classification number that corresponds to our classification scheme. In certain subject areas, for example Irish history, Irish literature or English literature, the classification approach of the Library of Congress is too broad to allow for the nuances which we wish to reflect in how we co-locate material. For example, the Library of Congress locates all English-language literature together, whereas we wish to distinguish between literature written by Irish authors as opposed to Scottish, Welsh or English authors. For this reason, there remain certain subject areas where we do not feel able to purchase material 'shelf-ready'. During 2007/2008, 11% of books (2,321 volumes) received arrived 'shelf-ready'. We expect to see this number increase in the coming years. The reduction in the volume of books requiring in-house processing has allowed staff to be upskilled and their time to be redirected to cataloguing our backlog of uncatalogued donated collections or legal deposit material.



Reclassification Project

During the summer of 2008, a targeted project was carried out to reclassify the Archaeology collection from the Universal Decimal Classification scheme (UDC) to Dewey Decimal Classification (DDC) scheme, which is the classification scheme used throughout the library. This means that material on archaeology is now easier to find, since DDC is a much more straightforward scheme than UDC, and the collection is also co-located with the cognate disciplines of History, Early Civilisation and Classics. This project concluded work carried out during 2007 on other subject areas classified using UDC. A total of 4,833 volumes (3,231 titles) were reclassified from UDC to DDC during this project.

NUI Galway's Institutional Repository

During 2007/2008, the cataloguing team took on a new role with the introduction of ARAN - an Institutional Repository of the publications of NUI Galway researchers. The cataloguers helped to define the metadata that should be associated with each publication deposited in the repository, and as articles were deposited increased the accessibility and discoverability of those resources by quality checking the metadata and adding Library of Congress Subject Headings to each article.

Stocktaking

A major stocktaking project was undertaken during the summer of 2008. While our shelving team regularly shelf-read and ensure their areas are tidy and in order, it has been several years since a full stock-take was carried out to confirm the accuracy of holdings noted on our catalogue, against material actually on the shelves. Increasingly users had been expressing frustration with a perceived mismatch between the two. The summer stocktaking project involved a team of four temporary staff armed with lists of holdings on Floor 1 according to the catalogue. Their work resulted in 5,000 items being identified as incorrectly located (and therefore essentially hidden to the users) and a further 3,000 items that could not be located at all. As a percentage of our overall holdings this number is small, however from a

user perspective, trying to find one of these 8,000 items that the catalogue had reported as being available at a particular location will have been very frustrating. We hope that this project has hugely improved the accuracy of the catalogue and intend to follow up with a further stocktake of the remainder of the library during Summer 2009.

Notable Acquisitions

Notable acquisitions during 2007/2008 included some online archival resources to include: *20th Century House of Commons Parliamentary Papers*, *the 19th Century Index*, *State Papers Online – Series 1 and 2*, *17th and 18th Century Newspapers Online: the Burney Collection*, *The New York Times Archive*, and *Conditions and Politics in Occupied Western Europe*. Other notable acquisitions included: *Sport Newspaper 1880-1923, 1926-31* on Microfilm and *GSGS Topographical Military Maps of County Galway*.

To complement the John McGahern archive held by the library, copies of the first US and first UK editions of all of John McGahern's works, as well as some foreign language editions were acquired during the year.

Readers Services Division

Highlights for the period under review

The Nursing Library Extension - Planning for the anticipated Nursing Library extension at the southern end of the James Hardiman Library moved ahead during the year under review, with several meetings between architect, Buildings Office and the consultant Management Services taking place to finalise the plans and progress these through to final planning permission. The design is over three floors connected to the Main Library by a glass walkway at Ground Floor level. Once completed, the accommodation will comprise of study spaces, monograph and journal shelving, a PC Suite, an Information Point, group study rooms and staff offices. Work on the extension commenced on Tuesday 12th August 08 with an expected completion date of early August 2009.

Re-organisation of Customer Services – Following negotiations with Library Staff on restructuring at the non-professional grades, and in tandem with changes to the promotional outlet for this group of staff, a new role of Team Leader Customer Services was advertised in late September. The appointment was made in October, with the new appointee taking up her post in early December 2008, with specific responsibility for overseeing the new Customer Service Desk, combining circulation related activities and an information point, which became operational towards the end of the academic year.

Foyer Refurbishment - To support this staff and service restructuring, a major foyer refurbishment project was undertaken during the summer of 2008. Because of the almost impossible deadlines, the Head of Reader Services was totally immersed in this project, working closely with Brazil Lohan Architects. The project involved the closure of the foyer area, the relocation of services and staff, and the creation of a temporary alternative entrance to the library building via the Browsing Room. The result was the creation of a new Customer Services Desk and related workspaces for staff. Concomitant with these developments was the development of an office and front of house service area for the Information team supporting Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies along with Engineering & Informatics and Science.

Scéim Teanga na hOllscoile - In support of the Library's commitment under Scéim Teanga na hOllscoile, a number of Reader Services Staff, in particular those based at front line services including the Circulation Desk, Information Point and Library Stewards' Desk, attended Irish classes twice a week to improve their fluency in Irish in relation to general library terminology and to generally improve their spoken Irish, and so enhance the service to those Library users, wishing to conduct their business through Irish. In total 24 Staff members from throughout the library attended 339 hours of classes.

Customer Care - Continuing our commitment to excellent Customer Care, and to build on the Customer Care Training provided to staff at the end of the last academic year, the Library re-appointed the O'Maille Group to undertake a review of services at the James Hardiman Library, the Medical Library and the Nursing Library. The

process involved the compilation of a Touch Map of all the areas/services, both physical and virtual, in which we engage with our users. The resultant report provided an overview of how our users interact with the Library and the areas which caused difficulties from their perspective. This information was then used to inform ongoing Customer Care training and also assisted in our reviewing the service delivery methods we deploy to interact with users.

Facilitating Laptop use - Feedback from recent surveys indicated a considerable growth in laptop ownership and the corresponding demand from users for access to power points when working in the library. In order to facilitate this development the Library installed 100 power points on the study tables at ground floor level, along with additional power outlets at various places on floors 1 and 2.

Opening Hours - Following on the success of our extended opening hours in summer 2007, and being cognisant of growing user demand, in particular among postgraduate students for evening/weekend access to the Library during the summer months, further additional funding was made available from the University to offer extended opening again in 2008. These monies were matched by Library funding and resulted in our being able to offer nine weeks of extended hours (an increase of 25 hours a week – from 45 hours to 70 hours). Students were able to avail of late night openings to 22.00 on four nights of the week and all day on Saturdays. The Library also remained open on the August Bank Holiday Monday and on the two afternoons of the Galway Races.

RFID Technology - Radio Frequency Identification was introduced in a limited fashion in the Desk Reserve collection. RFID is an identification technology and it does the same job as barcodes but offers potentially a lot more. An RFID tag was affixed to all items being placed in the Desk Reserve collection and the 3M Self Check unit in the short loan area was upgraded to make it RFID compatible.

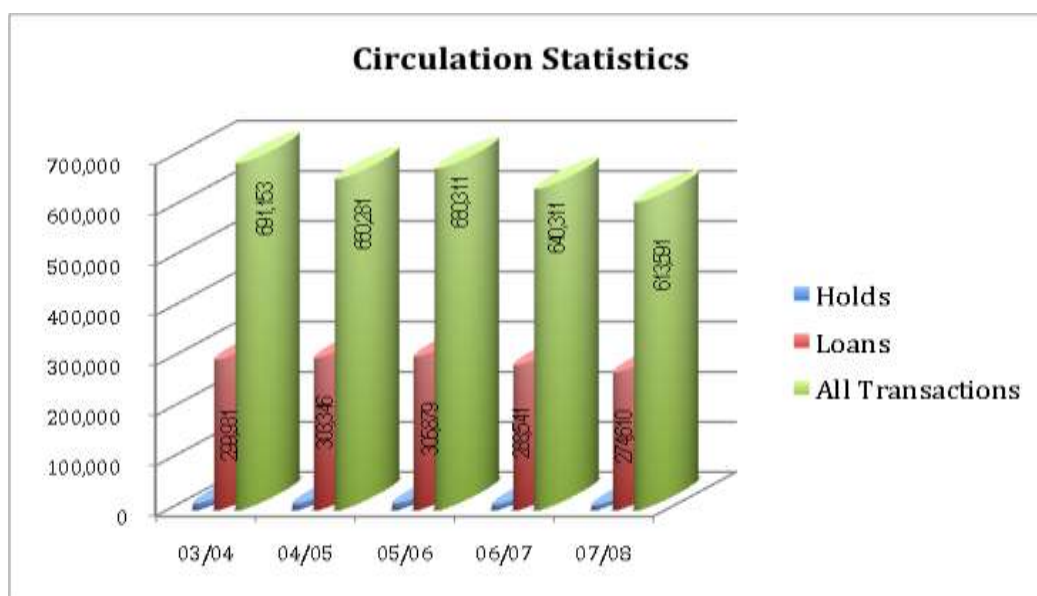
Con Tempo in the Library - The traditional *Con Tempo Quartet* concert took place prior to the Semester 2 examinations on Wednesday 23rd April. The concert featuring music by Beethoven, Sabin Pautza, and Radu Paladi drew a larger than usual audience, and was warmly received by the student body. One student even penned a note of appreciation to *Con Tempo* and the Library for organizing the event as a 'nerve calmer' in the lead up to the examinations.

Circulation Statistics

As with last year, circulation activity at each of the Library's three sites continued to show a slight decrease during 2007/2008, possibly reflecting the increased use in electronic resources and increased in house usage of stock due to extended opening hours. In summary:

	07/08	06/07	% change
All Transactions	613,591	640,311	-4%
Loans	274,610	288,541	-5%
Holds	10,313	11,333	-9%

Similarly, self-check usage continued to increase during the year and from a starting point in September where self-check represented **32%** of all issues and returns at JHL this figure increased by year end to **55%** of all issues and returns.



Photocopying Services

The Library renewed the contract with MJ Flood in respect of the Supply of Self Service Photocopying & Networked Printing Services for another year at the start of the academic year 07/08.

In 06/07 the Library registered 2,237,610 copies, however in the current academic year 07/08 due to the continued impact of our increased offerings to users via electronic access, allied with the increased ownership of lap top computers among the student body, copying declined by 20% to 1,786,180. As a consequence, Library income from this source was considerably reduced.

Assistive Technology Service

The ATS continued to be heavily used throughout the year and was very busy meeting the needs of students registered with the service in support of their study and examination needs. Additional part-time assistance was engaged to support the increased demand for scanned and edited material.

During the year under review the staff member responsible for this service completed a two year Diploma in Assistive Technology and was awarded first class honours. The Assistive Technology Service at JHL came in for special mention in an article that appeared in the *Sligo Champion* on the occasion of the graduation of our first guide dog assisted student.

Special Collections & Archives Acquisitions

A number of interesting collections were acquired this year, which included:

- Set of Admiralty charts for the Irish coast.
- The *Making of the Modern World* electronic resource containing digital facsimile images of over 61,000 works on economics, economic history and business published between 1450-1850.
- The *House of Commons Parliamentary Papers* for the 19th century in electronic format.
- Monograph containing the works of Philostratus, in Greek with a Latin translation. Printed at Leipzig in 1709, it belonged to the historian Edward Gibbon. It was kindly donated, in memory of the late Prof. Heavey, by Ciarán Murray.
- The archive of Prof. G.A. Hayes-McCoy, consisting of monographs and articles by Prof Hayes -McCoy, along with correspondence, press cuttings, research material and sketches.
- The archive of Alan Simpson, comprising a collection of playbills, press cuttings and correspondence relating to the work of Alan Simpson. The collection also contained, some scripts; copies of his writings; and an autograph book from the later nineteenth century.
- A donation of additional Siobhan McKenna material from John Hipsley /Brian McGrath comprising 15 boxes of material, including programmes, posters, press cuttings and also some of Siobhan's later correspondence, adaptations of plays and many of her books.
- A visitor's book to the Museum of Queen's College, Galway, donated by Prof. Rolf Loeber, which provided a fascinating overview of those visiting Galway in the early 1850s and 1860s.
- Bob Quinn Photographic Archive

An analysis of the items in our 5,000 strong MISC collection was undertaken on our behalf by Ms. Patricia Burdick, Special Collections Librarian, Colby College, Maine, who was in Galway on a six-month sabbatical. The MISC collection contains material ranging in date from c.1700-1985. The project resulted in the prioritisation of materials for preservation and transfer to more secure storage.

The Special Collections Librarians (Marie Boran and Evelyn Flanagan) delivered a joint paper at the LAI/CILIP Ireland joint conference entitled "Curators of the carriers of civilisation: the role of the Rare Books Librarian in 21st century".

With the move of our contract archivist to the new Library digitisation service, we were very pleased to see the appointment of Ms. Vera Orschel to Archives who will join us on October 1st from a contract post at the Pontifical Irish College in Rome.

Special Collections & Archives staff, as part of the *LARK* training series provided very well received sessions on archives, theses, maps, newspapers and rare books.

A booklet on Electronic Resources for Archives and Special Collections was produced during the year and made available via the Virtual Learning centre on the Library website.

Exhibitions and Events

Thanks to the input of our Special Collections Librarian, Marie Boran, along with our Archivist, Kieran Hoare, the library hosted a broad ranging series of exhibitions during the academic year 07/08.

In early October to coincide with *Comhhdháil Litríocht na Gaeilge* and *Louvain 400* weekend there was a very significant exhibition which brought together two famous Irish manuscripts – Duanaire Finn and the Book of O’Conor Don. Both were originally commissioned in Louvain in the 1620s and this was the first time in almost 400 years that they were displayed together

Also in October, the President, Dr. Iognáid ó Muircheartaigh along with special guest Dr. Loretta Brennan Glucksman launched a commemorative publication celebrating the John McGahern Archive at NUI, Galway and McGahern’s association with the University. The publication which is available in the library, and contains an article entitled ‘*The McGahern Archive at the James Hardiman Library*’ co-written by Fergús Fahey (Archivist) and Marie Reddan, (Librarian).

In November, the Library hosted a reception at which Brian Coughlan donated his recently published book ‘*Achill Island tattie-hokers in Scotland and the Kirkintilloch tragedy, 1937*’ along with two audio tapes. The tapes contain two separate interviews with Anthony Kilbane, a ninety five year old native from the townland of Cloughmore on Achill Island. The interviews provide a unique and personal insight into the recent history of Ireland’s largest island. In the initial interview, he recalls some of his earliest childhood memories, in particular, the period from the 1920s to the early 1930s, growing-up in his original family home in Chábán, now a deserted hillside hamlet on the outskirts of Cloughmore. In the second interview, Anthony Kilbane recalls some of his experiences of working within both the British agriculture and construction sectors, especially his experience of working in Scotland as a tattie-hoker or potato-picker throughout the 1920s and 1930s. The donation, which compliments other archival holdings, will provide present and future Irish scholars with a unique insight into the social, economic, family and community life of an island culture that is beginning to fade from living memory.

The new year heralded in an book exhibition on the theme of ‘Weather’, accompanied by a very colourful and informative PowerPoint presentation, drawing much interest from Library users.

The second *Friends of the Library* event took place on Monday 3rd March in conjunction with the official handover to the Library of the Joe Burke Archive. The event which also included a performance by the traditional musician Joe Burke drew a capacity audience at the Moore Institute.

Finally, on April 23rd, an exhibition entitled: **Island Life: the Islands of Ireland** was formally opened by Dr. Lillis Ó Laoire, Scoil na Gaeilge. The exhibition which was compiled by the National Photographic Archive, NLI, comprised photographs dating from the late nineteenth century onwards, depicting daily life, culture and people on

the off-shore and inland islands from around Ireland. The exhibition ran until mid July.

Information Services Division

Services, Resources and Activities

2007-2008 concentrated on further developing Information Literacy initiatives such as SIF Generic Information Skills module for researchers, and the *LARK* and *LARK Online* programmes for undergraduates. New initiatives for researchers were developed through a series of seminars/workshops and the expansion of the Library's role in analysing the impact of citations.

As always, Information Services featured largely in Orientation of new students, both in the autumn and also, for new International students in January.

Captivate tutorials were further developed as were wiki-related LibGuides.

Collection and Content Development

Content development continues to be a major focus of Information Services Division with the Research Support Librarian developing a template for collection development policies in support of the research community. In addition a number of excellent e-resources were added to collections, which will be of great benefit to the academic community and many potentially interesting e-products were trialled during the year. The Information Librarians were particularly busy during the summer with weeding of collections.

Information Librarians Faculty Liaison

The faculty user fora continued, with the Arts and Celtic Studies meeting going from strength to strength with huge numbers attending. Meetings of other faculty fora also continued, with Law and Nursing well supported.

Information Literacy

LARK Online was finalised with imaging and flash content added and the module made available via *Blackboard*. We are particularly proud of this programme, as we are now the first IUA Library with a full Information Literacy Programme for undergraduates. The Electronic Resources Librarian developed a series of *Captivate* generic e-resource tutorials on the newly developed Virtual Learning Centre, and *LARK Online* was also launched on the VLC. The *LARK* generic library series now in its third year was again very successful with waiting lists for some topics. New sessions on research methodology and EndNote were also included.

The Arts and Celtic Studies Information Librarians developed an Information Literacy module for the Arts and Celtic Studies Certificate in Postgraduate Studies. It is to be fully assessed and embedded. The new SIF Information Literacy project was further developed with the first content finalised and trialled with PhDs and Librarians in all three partner institutions. Feedback was very positive and encouraging. The Dean of Graduate Studies, CELT and other research leaders were also supportive of the project. A number of modules were developed and loaded on Blackboard for Medical and Nursing undergraduates. New wiki-like subject pages in Commerce were developed by the E-Resource Librarian using Lib-Guides interface.

Supporting Research

The Research Support Librarian produced a number of new publications for researchers including “*The Library Supporting your Research*”. She also developed a series of workshops and seminars for various research groups and the ongoing drive to meet all research groups is now showing results.

In January 2008, an excellent seminar entitled *Research Publication & Dissemination – the Future?* attracting contributors and attendees nationally from research, library, vendor and publishing backgrounds was coordinated by the Research Support Librarian. She continued her involvement with the University Rankings Group, delivering a presentation on citation analysis and the THES data submissions, and was also a member of the Research Performance Communications Group.

The Head of Information Services and a number of Information Librarians joined the Research Survey Group to look at analysing findings of surveys and implement appropriate response actions.

Supporting the University

The Head of Information Services and the Information Librarians prepared input for, and met with departmental and programme Quality Review teams for Mathematics; Maths Physics; History; and for the Arts MA Programmes. This involvement is very important to the Library and hopefully contributes to the overall quality of the Reviews.

In addition to the standard orientation for new students at the start of the academic year, orientation sessions were provided for over 700 international students during this period.

Sub-Librarian's activity

Internally, much time was spent on working towards the restructuring of the Information Desk and the new single point Customer Services Desk. Changes were also made in the staffing support of the Nursing Library and Engineering and Science. The Sub-Librarian Information Services now chairs the new Orientation Group 2008, with great plans to build on the success of the previous year. In addition to local projects, external involvement continued to be a large commitment this year. This included significant work on the SIF Information Literacy Project (jointly with UCC and TCD), and assuming the role of co-ordinator of the project towards the end of the academic year, on the retirement of the Librarian. The task for Galway as partner is made more onerous, with the need to liaise so closely with the Online Module developer – *eMedia*. Meetings took up a lot of time, and the huge input of the Electronic Resources Librarian in bringing this project to forward must be acknowledged. The Head of Information Services also represented the Library on the CONUL *Advisory Group on Information Literacy*. Work on the *IRel Monitoring Group* continued with further analysis of usage data and report writing on a monthly basis.

Medical Library

The new academic year started with Library staff heavily engaged in orientation for new students and new staff. Library was extremely busy in Semester one, with students preparing for examinations and assignments. January saw the 3rd year medical students start their clinical tuition in the hospital – new this year as this normally happens in June of the year. Tutorials were given to various groups including early morning tutorials to some groups. A series of two-hour lectures to eleven groups was given as part of the second medicine GP Professionalism Module, with growing demand for EndNote tutorials as follow on to the successful search and retrieve strategies.

The Medical Library was visited as part of the accreditation process for the new Masters of Radiation Oncology. It was also part of an inspection in relation to the five-yearly accreditation inspection of the Department of Otorhinolaryngology in October 2007 with the visiting team members pronouncing themselves impressed with the quality of the support given by staff to users.

Medical Library staff participated in the ongoing service quality improvement programme co-ordinated by the Main Library under the direction of Ms Ria Wiid of the O'Malley Group. Library staff were also involved in range of other courses including introduction to Computing and other Health & Safety Courses.

Space continues to be a major issue, with the Library Self-Teaching area heavily booked by tutorial groups and for work on course projects. General study space is equally heavily utilised, requiring the firm application of the *30-minute rule* in respect of vacated spaces. By May the demand for places had as usual reduced, however, with the ending of term-time opening in mid-May, following the end of College examinations, the Medical Library user type changed significantly, when users included a higher percentage of HSE interns, electives, registrars and Senior House Officers, many of whom commenced their contracts on 1st July. NUI Galway users included postgraduate students, students working on summer assignments and completing theses, and those studying for the repeat examinations in August. In addition to the problems of space, quality of environment is still of major concern, with many persistent issues including leaks, and temperature fluctuations still unresolved on any permanent basis.

For Library staff, summer afforded an opportunity to turn attention to the normal summer tasks of weeding, relegating and binding of stock, and at the same time, encouraging Medical Faculty to order new material for stock. The Medical Librarian also contributed significant time and effort in the development of the SIF online Information Literacy Module with presentations to pilot groups towards the end of May and in early June.

Nursing Library

Many changes took place during the year in the Nursing Library as part of the overall staff re-structuring. Always noted for their support to students, the staff launched some very successful initiatives – including drop-in sessions every Wednesday for all students. With many masters and diploma students now firmly committed to use of *Blackboard*, the Nursing Librarians have spent time in training on the system. New pages on the website were developed for the blended learning / distance learning Nursing courses. Jane Mulligan, who shares the post of Nursing Librarian with Máire O hAodha developed a most useful *Guide to Citing and Referencing*, and this also went live on the Nursing web pages. The Nursing User Forum continues to be very successful, with very large numbers attending each meeting.

Summer hours were restricted in the Library in response to demand, and a lot of work and discussion took place on the final layout and design of the Nursing Library Extension to the Main Library.

Library Systems Division

As ever, three main drivers for Library ICT developments steered library systems activities over the year. Firstly, the potential perceived by library management for internal process improvement and control continued to drive two key projects. (Verde and ARC). Secondly, library management's strategic response to the changing scholarly information environment was the impetus towards creating a new institutional repository, and the introduction of a new Digitisation Service. Thirdly, opportunities offered, and changes necessitated by wider IT initiatives, particularly those on campus, saw further consolidation of disparate server systems on to a common hardware/software platform as supplied by Computer Services. All the while, the regular knowledgebase updates, service packs and upgrades continued.

New Digitisation Service

The acquisition of a high-end digital book scanner, (with funding secured via a joint application with the Moore Institute, to the HEA Research Equipment Renewal Grant Scheme), heralded the introduction of a new Library Digitisation service. Originally located in the Library basement, this service made possible the production of industrial-quality digital images of rare and out-of-print material. As well as facilitating the preservation of these materials, it was planned that the resulting digital resources would form the basis of numerous innovative research and teaching projects, especially but not exclusively in the Humanities and Social Sciences. The availability of these resources enhanced the training of PhD students at NUI, Galway, who use the material to learn basic techniques for the manipulation of digital images, the creation of digital editions and virtual research and learning environments. Digital humanities research was identified as a growth area in the university's Strategic Plan for Research. At the same time the scanner proved extremely useful in producing digital analogues, where copyright allowed, to selected hardcopy material. Its capability to produce extremely compact PDF files, allowed the resulting digitised volumes be made available on the WWW. In January 2008, the service saw appointment of Fergus Fahey, to a 3-year post of Digitization and Institutional Repository Librarian.

Institutional Repository

When Librarians from the seven universities under the Irish Universities Association launched an initiative to promote and preserve the research output of Irish researchers, NUI Galway came on board, by commencing the creation of our own repository of research papers, to feed-in to a National Portal. The goal was to make Irish research output freely available to the global research community by creating repositories of research papers within each University. Growth in research was identified by the government as critical to ensuring Ireland's future as a key player on the world stage, and essential in underpinning Ireland's investment in its future as a knowledge economy. Raising the research profile was a key strategy in the Universities' strategic plans and the ability to showcase research output and identify institutional research strengths was seen as extremely important in attracting new investment. The Open Source *D-Space* Institutional Repository software was chosen for this project. Given its strategic nature on campus, (being used by both MIS and the Library catalogue) the *Oracle* relational database was also selected for this project. The project has sought to leverage the University's investment in VMware and virtual hardware and *D-Space* runs on two virtual servers.

Verde

As our share of electronic resources increases as a portion of our library holdings, we require tools to systematically administer these electronic collections. Work began in 06/07 on the implementation of *Verde* to manage these resources. The ability to manage the range of functions necessary in an e-environment, to include electronic-resource acquisition, licensing, deployment, support and evaluation is essential – hence the Library's acquisition of the *Verde* package which forms part of the suite of software from our Library Management System Supplier - *Ex Libris*. As the centre of our ERM activities, *Verde* replaced stand-alone spreadsheets, ad hoc process and individuals' memory with a custom knowledgebase, defined workflows and reporting capability. The *Verde* application was launched as a service to library staff during the period and its benefits are slowly being realised.

ARC

ARC, the *Aleph Reporting Centre*, a *Cognos* based reporting and analysis tool which was acquired last year, was installed and training commenced for Library staff. *ARC* assists library management decision-making, provides insight and determines performance across the range of library operations under the *Aleph* library management system. Its use has provided a far wider range of options for customised reporting than that available heretofore without the need to use custom SQL scripts and occasional *Perl* programs. This year it made a major contribution to the stocktaking exercise noted under Bibliographic Services above.

Maintenance activities

As in previous years, maintenance and upgrades to existing systems saw a number of incremental improvements to *SFX*, the *Ezproxy* off-campus system, and the *Aleph* Library Management system.

E-Knowledge E-Resource Portal

The E-Knowledge portal, based on *Exlibris' Metalib* Federated Search tool was upgraded to Version 4.1

Other Developments

The Exam Papers system, available from the Library since 1995, was handed over to Management Information Services who now coordinate this service.

Space and Environment

Mention has already been made in this report on progress on buildings and environment. The refurbished Library Foyer is of particular note – designed to present a modern, bright and inviting image of the library with clear signing and guiding and an unambiguous customer service point. The approval for a new Humanities and Social Sciences Library has been widely welcomed and will afford so much more in terms of how we present our services to the Community. The Nursing Library on the Main Campus is at last underway and users won't have long to wait for its completion – planned for August 2009.

Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Group continues to do excellent work on raising awareness of Health and Safety issues, both within the Library and also at University level. All Library staff were required to attend briefings on the revised safety statements. Emergency fire drills were organised and outcomes analysed by the Group members, and where necessary evacuation plans were enhanced. Points of contact in case of emergency were publicised within the Library.

Library Publications

INform / Nuachtlitir na Leabharlainne – two issues were published during the year - informative as ever and always well received. Thanks again to the editors – John Cox, Hugo Kelly, Sonia Freaney, and to Niamh Connolly for production and illustrations.

Staff Publications and External Presentations

Publications:

John Cox

Making sense of e-book usage data. *The Acquisitions Librarian*, 19 (3/4), 2007, pp. 193-212 (<http://hdl.handle.net/10379/17>)

Fergus Fahey

Reddan, M. and Fahey, F. (2007)"The McGahern Archive at the James Hardiman Library," in (L. McConnell, J. Kenny & R. O'Dwyer Eds.) *John McGahern at NUI*,

Marie Reddan

Reddan, M. and Fahey, F. (2007)"The McGahern Archive at the James Hardiman Library," in (L. McConnell, J. Kenny & R. O'Dwyer Eds.) *John McGahern at NUI*, Galway, National University of Ireland, Galway, 18-19.

Presentations:

Marie Boran

"Curators of the carriers of civilisation: the role of the Rare Books Librarian in 21st century", joint paper delivered by Marie Boran and Evelyn Flanagan to the LA /CILIP Ireland, Joint Conference.

"That Auld Ballycloran Castle: bibliographical and topographical evidence of Landed Estates in Connacht, c1700-1920. Presentation by Marie Boran and Brigid Clesham to the LAI Genealogy & Local Studies Group Seminar (in association with the NLI): Landed Estates: Records and Research, May 22nd, 2008.

Timothy Collins

'Providing quality information': paper read at INMED, RCSI, Dublin, 7th February 2008.

'The Clare Island Survey: a community study': paper read at SAPS08, NUI, Galway, 11th July 2008.

John Cox

The Future Leaders Programme: preparing for leadership. *ANLTC Seminar on Filling the Empty Chairs*, Dublin, 4 April 2008 (<http://www.anltc.ie/events/jcox4apr08.ppt>).

Monitoring uptake, impact and value for money in a consortium: usage data and beyond. *Association of Subscription Agents and Intermediaries Annual Conference: the Explosion of E-Resources*, London, 25-26 February 2008 (<http://www.subscription-agents.org/conference/200802/index.html>).

Research support: a selective and subjective SWOT analysis. *CONUL Colloquium: Thinking Strategically*, Adare, 4-5 February 2008 (<http://tinyurl.com/95rogv>).

Measuring the usage and impact of the Irish Electronic Library: an evolving project. *UK Serials Group Usage Statistics Seminar*, Dublin, 15 January 2008.

Evelyn Flanagan

“Curators of the carriers of civilisation: the role of the Rare Books Librarian in 21st century”, joint paper delivered by Marie Boran and Evelyn Flanagan to the LA /CILIP Ireland, Joint Conference.

Marie Reddan

“IReL supporting Research” presentation to the HEAnet Networking Conference IReL 15th Nov 07

“IReL a superb resource for Researchers” – workshop and presentation to the Marine Institute, Oranmore County Galway 20th November 2007

“Information Literacy at the Heart of Graduate Information Skills” – presentation at the joint CONUL / SCONUL Seminar, Dublin, January 2008

“Graduate Information Literacy Skills: collaborative SIF funded approach” - presentation to IUISC, Farnham, County Cavan, March 2008

“Graduate Information Skills: developing an Information Literacy Module” – presentation to the SIF Graduate Skills workshop, Galway, June 2008.

Memberships / Committee Memberships (External)

Marie Reddan, Librarian

ALCID – National University of Ireland, Galway representative (to Sept 1, 2008)
 Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) - Member
 CONUL - Consortium of National & University Libraries – NUI, Galway nominee
 IUA Librarians Committee
 Ex Libris - Aleph Directors Group - Member
 HEAnet – Director - CONUL nominee (to Sept 1, 2008)
 IRIS - Director (NUI, Galway)
 Irish Universities Information Systems Colloquium (IUISC) – NUI, Galway Library representative (to Sept 1, 2008)
 Library Association of Ireland – member
 MCILIP – Member of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals
 National Library of Ireland Readers' Advisory Committee - Member
 Royal Irish Academy Working Group on the Humanities and Social Sciences – Member
 SCONUL Advisory Committee on Space – (to Sept 1, 2008)
 SIF Information Skills Group (to Sept 1, 2008)

John Cox, Deputy Librarian

Irish Research eLibrary (IReL) Monitoring Group – Chair
 Academic and National Libraries Training Co-Operative – Committee Member, Web site manager
 Joint RLUK/SCONUL Scholarly Communications Group - Member
 Editorial Board, Learned Publishing – Member
 Library Association of Ireland – Member
 Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals - Member
 UK Electronic Information Group – Member

Marie Boran, Special Collections Librarian

Library Association of Ireland – Member
 Genealogy & Local Studies Group (LAI) – Committee member
 Rare Books Group (LAI) – Committee member
 Library Association of Ireland, Western Region Group – Member
 LAI Western Region - Member
 Folklore Society of Ireland / An Cumann le Béaloideas Éireann – Member

Timothy Collins, Medial Librarian

Fellow of the Library Association
 Library Association of Ireland – Personal Member
 LAI Health Sciences Libraries Group – Personal Member
 CILIP Health Libraries Group - Personal Member
 Institute of Information Scientists – Member
 European Association of Health Information and Libraries (EAHIL) – Library Representative
 University Medical Schools Libraries Group (UMSLG) – Library Representative

International Association of Marine Science Librarians (IAMSLIC) – Corresponding Member

Cochrane Library User Group – Member

Peter Corrigan, Library Systems Administrator

AUGUKI (Aleph User Group for UK and Ireland) - Representative

IUA Institutional Repositories Working Group – Member

NUI Galway, ICT Architecture committee – Member

Monica Crump, Sub-Librarian Bibliographic Services

AGI (Acquisitions Group of Ireland) – Chair

CONUL Working Group on Copyright and Regulatory Matters – NUI, Galway representative

IReL (Irish Research Electronic Library) Steering Committee – NUI, Galway representative

CONUL Collaborative Storage Working Group – NUI, Galway representative

UKSG (UK Serials Group) – Member

Fahey, Fergus

IUA Institutional Repositories Working Group – Member

Evelyn Flanagan

LAI – Rare Books Group

Patricia Ffrench, Assistant Librarian Cataloguing

Library Association of Ireland (LAI) – Member

Cataloguing and Indexing Group (LAI) – Committee member

Western Regional Group (LAI) – Member

INULS National Committee - Member

Trish Finnan, Librarian Commerce and External Liaison

BLA (Business Librarians Association, UK and Ireland)

Sonia Freaney, Assistant Librarian Cataloguing

Cataloguing and Indexing Group (LAI) – Committee Member

Kieran Hoare, Archivist

Society of Archivists – Member

Irish Society for Archives - Member

Galway Archaeological and Historical Society – Secretary

Hugo Kelly, Law Librarian

Member of the British and Irish Association of Law Librarians

Ronán Kennedy, Information Librarian, Electronic Resources

LIR Committee

IReL Licensing Group

IReL Web Group

Niall McSweeney, Sub-Librarian Information Services

ANLTC sub-committee on Continuous Professional Development
 CONUL Advisory Group on Information Literacy
 IREL Monitoring Group
 SIF Information Skills Group – (Chair from 1st September 2008)

Ann Mitchell, Sub-Librarian Reader Services

Library Association of Ireland - Member
 Academic and Special Libraries section – Section Member
 Rare Books Group – Section
 Western Regional Section - Library Association of Ireland - Section member
 CONUL Committee on Collection Management – NUI, Galway representative
 Heads of Readers Services National Group – NUI Galway Representative

Jane Mulligan, Librarian Engineering and Science

University Science and Technology Librarians Group - Member
 Computing Librarians Group – Member

Neil O'Brien, Assistant Library Collection Management

Acquisitions Group of Ireland – Member

Niamh Walsh, Information Librarian, Arts & Celtic Studies:

Library Association of Ireland – Member
 Academic & Special Libraries Section (LAI) - Member
 Genealogy and Local Studies Group (LAI) – Member

Library Staff Attendance at Conferences & External Meetings:

- HEANET networking Kilkenny 15-16 November 2007
- “Special Collections and teaching in the electronic age” - LAI Rare Books Group Annual Seminar NLI, Dublin, November 2007
- Online 2007, London, November 2007.
- SCONUL Autumn Conference British Library 4th December 2007
- SCONUL ACOS Buildings Seminar, London, December 2007
- *Research Publication & Dissemination – the Future?* NUI Galway, 10th January 2008
- SCONUL/ CONUL Information Literacy – Dublin 31st January 2008
- CONUL Senior Staff Conference – Adare 4th / 5th February 2008
- LAI Genealogy & Local Studies Group Seminar “Newspapers”, Dublin 7th March 2008
- IUISC Farnham – Cavan 5th – 7th March 2008
- LILAC – Librarians’ Information Literacy Conference, Liverpool John Moores University, 17-19 March 2008
- Succession Planning – ANLTC Seminar, Dublin April 4th, 2008
- UKSG Conference, 7-9th April 2008
- Empowering our Users - LIR annual seminar, Liberty Hall, Dublin April 2008
- Alternative Formats Workshop – UCC, Cork 22nd April 2008
- LAI Genealogy & Local Studies Group in association with the NLI - Seminar: Landed Estates: Records and Research, May 22nd, 2008
- Irish National and University Library Staff Conference, National University Ireland Dublin City University, June 2008
- The Medieval Book – LRBS Training Course, London 30th June – 4th July

Marie Reddan: Final report 28th July 2010