



NUI Galway  
OÉ Gaillimh

James Hardiman Library

**inform**

*Nuachtlitir na Leabharlainne  
James Hardiman Library Newsletter*

*Issue 35, August 2009*

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## Our evolving Library catalogue

How do we improve the Library catalogue? Can the catalogue continue to add value in a rapidly changing information landscape? As Librarians, we know we have to respond to the rising expectations of our users, the increase in new kinds of digital resources and a nascent revolution in scholarly publishing. Such wholesale change demands a radical rethink on the facilities and services the catalogue actually provides. Our ultimate aim must be the provision of the optimal launch-pad for NUI Galway's scholarly activity.

Enter e-Knowledge 2.0, NUI Galway's new Library catalogue based on the Primo system from Exlibris.

e-Knowledge 2.0 uses a whole panoply of recent advances in search engine technology and brings them to bear on our physical and virtual collections. In addition, as librarians, we have listened to users, who have asked why they cannot search books and journals at the same time. We have selected a system incorporating the best elements of Web 2.0 to create a streamlined user experience. e-Knowledge 2.0 also comes with many embedding options and facilities for exploiting web services.

### Some Highlights

This new catalogue is now a single point of discovery for all resources: books, electronic journals and databases, including NUI Galway originated research papers.

Faceted search leverages the work of this and past generations of NUI Galway cataloguers. For many years our catalogers have performed the equivalent of sophisticated semantic tagging using subject headings from a controlled vocabulary. It was a technology ahead of its time, which delivers more value now than ever before. Search for a term, and this descriptive metadata from the set of retrieved records is 'sliced and diced', 'on-the-fly'. The resulting output gives users a powerful insight into how the set is composed, allowing them to zero in on what we have that best matches what they want.

In order to leverage the NUI Galway scholarly-community's input, and further assist retrieval precision and augment bibliographic description, we now provide facilities for user contributed semantic tagging, and user contributed book reviews.

A highly sophisticated Did-You-Mean facility is now available. This suggests appropriate search terms when zero hits are retrieved for a query. Utilising statistical natural-language-processing techniques and calculated on our actual catalogue content, this locally computed, and continuously updated word model offers the most locally relevant suggestions to user input.

The new catalogue was designed to be embedded within the University's virtual learning environment, Blackboard, and within the Library WWW site.

Studies have demonstrated that users, including academic researchers, generally only examine the first page of a set of retrieved search results. Accordingly, the ranking or order in which search results are displayed is crucially important. Google has shown how valuable a modern relevance ranking algorithm can be. This criterion was to the fore in selection of this new Library catalogue. We are striving for the seemingly magical properties that the best modern retrieval algorithms employ to "read the mind" of the user and present exactly what they want.

These are just a selection of the many features of this powerful state-of-the-art system. We take our responsibility of providing the launch-pad for NUI Galway's scholarly activity very seriously. We believe we have selected the best tool available to achieve this. You can judge for yourself by taking an e-Knowledge 2.0 testdrive at <http://ek.nuigalway.ie>

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Do you want to comment? Find this article on our  
HardiBlog - <http://hardimanlibrary.blogspot.com/>

## ARAN update- NUI Galway's institutional repository

Library staff have been working closely with individual researchers and research centres to make available journal articles and other scholarly communications on NUI Galway's open access institutional repository [ARAN](#).

While the project is still in its early stages and is yet to be formally launched, papers from a wide range of disciplines are already being made available on ARAN. Browsing ARAN by discipline, a user can access research outputs from a range of fields including engineering, biomedical science, information technology, social science, business and English literature.

ARAN is already showcasing the range and quality of research carried out in NUI Galway and makes

scholarly communication from the University freely and easily accessible and discoverable. The Library is also working closely with the Irish Universities Association and staff from the six other Irish universities in the setting up of a national portal to Irish research. The national portal, which will be launched early in 2010, will harvest metadata from individual universities' institutional repositories and will link to full-text papers in those repositories.

Increasingly, funders are demanding that scholarly communications related to research they fund be made available through open access. The national portal will include a feature which enables a user to browse by funder. The Library has already begun working closely with a number of research institutes

and centres to enable them to deposit their papers in ARAN in order to meet commitments to funders.

If you or your School/Centre would like to deposit material in ARAN, either as an individual researcher or as a group, please contact:

**Institutional Repository Librarian**

**Fergus Fahey**

E [fergus.fahey@nuigalway.ie](mailto:fergus.fahey@nuigalway.ie)

T 091 495961 EXT 5961

<http://aran.library.nuigalway.ie>

## Top 5 most popular items in ARAN for June 2009

#	AUTHORS	TITLE	UNIT	SUBMITTER	VIEWS
1	Fitzgibbon, Joan; Morrison, John J.; Smith, Terry J.; O'Brien, Margaret;	<a href="#">Modulation of human uterine smooth muscle cell collagen contractility by thrombin, Y-27632, TNF alpha and indomethacin</a>	NCBES	Smith, Terry J.	60
2	Dayong Gao, Madden, Michael G. Schukat, Michael; Chambers; Des Lyons, Gerard	<a href="#">Arrhythmia identification from ECG signals with a neural network classifier based on a Bayesian framework</a>	School of Information Technology	Michael G. Madden	59
2	Allyn Fives	<a href="#">Human flourishing: the grounds of moral judgment</a>	School of Political Science & Sociology	Allyn Fives	59
4	Munroe, Daniel T.; Madden, Michael G.	<a href="#">Multi-class and Single-class classification approaches to vehicle model recognition from images</a>	School of Information Technology	Michael G. Madden	57
5	Devlin, Sarah; Leader, Geraldine; Healy, Olive	<a href="#">Comparison of behavioral intervention and sensory-integration therapy in the treatment of self-injurious behavior.</a>	School of Psychology	Geraldine Leader	55

## The move to online

The need for efficiency requires us to make the best possible use of space, financial resources and staff resources. The Library questions the purchase, processing and storage of print journals which are also available and well-used online, and whose long-term online access is guaranteed.

Following extensive consultation, the Library has discarded extensive print back-runs of journals, where those journals are available securely and permanently online via JSTOR. Since the Library is at full capacity, the space that has been freed up allows us to continue to add newly published material to our collection and potentially add study spaces.

We have also analysed our current journal subscriptions and are moving as many as we can to an online-only basis. Consultation on the titles in question will take place over the coming months. Already, significant financial savings have been identified through this move, by the cancellation of print journals whose online equivalent is available to us for free via IReL.

**Monica Crump,**  
Head of Bibliographic Services  
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## STM researchers – measuring success

Whether you are preparing a funding proposal, writing your annual report, or showcasing your discipline strengths to inform local or international benchmarking, the Library can support you and your team in getting the most from the metrics to demonstrate your performance in a number of ways.

We can provide one-to-one and group advocacy specific to your discipline in a number of ways:

- Best practice in interpreting, applying and exploiting citation metrics to evaluate your research and others.

- Keep abreast of the evolving models and metrics and how you can use them to your best advantage.
- Using key citation indices to extract bibliometric data to support strategic, discipline and individual benchmarking activities.

See also the Library's tailored workshop series for PhDs, Post Docs and research staff and associates:  
<http://tinyurl.com/nlev8c>

We can work with you and your team to identify customised research performance profiles specific to your discipline and school.

You can maximize your paper's Google Page Rank by depositing your papers into [ARAN](#) (Access to Research at NUI Galway), the University's institutional repository.

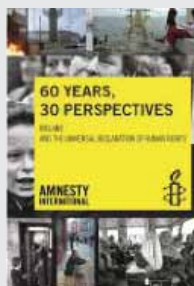
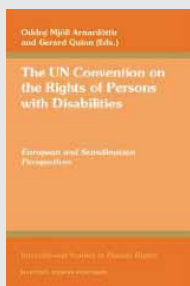
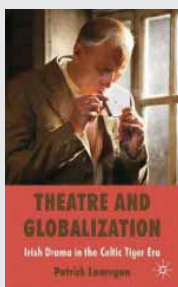
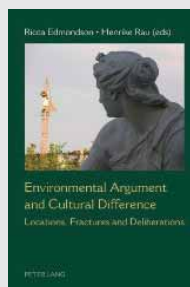
For more on ARAN see [page 3](#)

To find out more, contact:  
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T 091 495697 EXT 5697



## Staff Publications

A Staff Publications display stand is located to the left of the foyer in the James Hardiman Library. Recent books for 2009 are on view at present. To keep this collection up to date, staff should contact Mr. Neil O'Brien, Collections Management Librarian, [neil.obrien@nuigalway.ie](mailto:neil.obrien@nuigalway.ie), or [teresa.brett@nuigalway.ie](mailto:teresa.brett@nuigalway.ie) who will be happy to display your publication.



### Some Current Books on Display

**Teresa Brett,**

Senior Library Assistant Bibliographic Services

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## Students have their say

In March this year, the Library launched a survey of undergraduate students. The online survey questionnaire was based closely on the student surveys conducted in 2004 and 2006, although some questions were dispensed with and new questions introduced. The basis of the questionnaire was retained so that we would be able to compare trends across a number of years.

The survey sought information, opinions and levels of satisfaction from students across a number of areas, including: use of the Library and its resources, training and communication with Library staff. The response rate was a healthy 27.6%, with 2724 students participating in the survey.

Most students (86.5%) considered that the Library offered a good service overall, and there was increased satisfaction with several services, such as: self-check machines, online access from home, printing and photocopying. Also, the majority of students thought that Library staff were helpful (76.8%) and knowledgeable (69.2%).

There was interest in training in the use of information resources, including increased interest in EndNote. There was some enthusiasm for online courses, and 15.1% wanted to receive training via YouTube, which was a new option in the 2009 survey.

There was a large increase in the ownership of laptops: 85.1% compared to 45% in 2006, and 64.5% used wireless access to networked services in the Library. Despite these figures, 67.3% commented that there were not enough computer suites in the Library. Similarly, 69.1% felt that there were not enough study spaces in the Library.

Email at 90.8% remained the most popular way of receiving information from the Library, followed by the Library web site (33.5%) and text messaging (26%). Communication with students is vital if we are to keep them informed of the growing and changing range of services and resources that Library has to offer.

**Laurie Greenfield,**

Reader Services

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## How many children did your great-grandmother have? 1911 Census for Galway Now Online



The National Archives of Ireland has undertaken the digitisation of its entire collection of 1911 Census forms including the household return forms. The first batch of material to be made available online appeared at the end of 2008 and included much of Dublin City and County, as well as counties Kerry, Antrim and Down. Recently, the material relating to counties Donegal, Cork, Galway, Wexford and King's County (Offaly) was published on the web, with most other counties to follow before the end of 2009.

A census of the population of the island of Ireland was undertaken every 10 years from 1821. Over that time the number of questions on the forms increased, so that much historical data could be extracted from them. Sadly, the forms covering the years 1821-1851

were almost entirely lost in the fire at the Four Courts, at the commencement of the Civil War in June 1922. The forms covering 1861-1891 had previously been destroyed by government, possibly for the making of paper.

Therefore there are only two Censuses for which actual household data exists, that of 1901 and 1911. These documents, late though they are, are vital to family historians. The National Archives chose to digitise the 1911 Census first since the questions on the form included one notable addition from 1901. Married women were requested to note the number of years they had been married, how many children had been born, and how many of those children were still living. The data obtained from this question can thus be used to assess issues such as infant mortality.

Other questions, concerning ability to speak Irish and English and to read and write, are vital to social and educational historians. However, for many people, just being able to see the form recording the names of those in the house on the night of 2 April 1911 provides sufficient fascination!

The Census is arranged by County, then by District Electoral Division (DED) and then by townland or street. Clicking on "How to Search" at the top of the screen provides detailed help as well as a section on Ireland in 1911. This contextualizes the information

found in the forms. It is possible to search for a specific surname; limit to one county; searching all of the available counties; or limit to a known area such as a townland or a DED. It is also possible to browse for a place.

The sample form shows the household of Valentine Steinberger, Librarian of the University Library and Professor of German, in 1911.

To search the 1911 Census online go to [www.census.nationalarchives.ie](http://www.census.nationalarchives.ie)

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Special Collections Librarian  
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## IReL: A key tool for research in Ireland

The IReL Monitoring Group conducted a survey earlier this year, targeting researchers and students at NUI Galway and other Irish universities. The aim of this study was to gain a deeper understanding of the impact that IReL has had on research, the nature of usage and any suggestions for improvement.

This representative survey (with a response rate of 37%, twice the 2007 response rate) highlighted the paramount role IReL plays in the everyday life of researchers in Ireland. IReL has enabled faster access to a wider range of publications, enhanced research in a multidisciplinary context and had a positive effect on the competitiveness of research output as a whole. Beyond the primary purpose of research, respondents felt that the service has helped to enhance teaching and undergraduate learning, and assisted institutions in forging successful partnerships.

It has also become clear from the survey, that IReL has evolved into a tool without which it is impossible to conduct research effectively in Ireland. Invited to comment on how any discontinuation of IReL would affect their work, respondents expressed grave concern at such a possibility.

*"Having access to all the same information as our competitors means that we have caught up with and in many cases overtaken them. With the resources issue gone, it's just a question of who has the best ideas."*

*"When recruiting research staff, IReL is one factor that can really impress."*

*"A large number of countries do not offer the level of access that IReL provides - it gives Ireland a competitive edge"*

*"IReL is by far the wisest and most important funding decision taken in Ireland for the third level sector. It truly enables research in Ireland."*

The full report is on the [IReL website](#).

**John Cox,**  
University Library  
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T 091 493712 EXT 3712

## Open for business

The summer saw the move of the Nursing and Midwifery Library from Dangan to a purpose-built, three storey extension to the rear of the Main Library. Library staff have moved with the Library's collections of books and journals. They are Máire Ó hAodha, Jane Mulligan and Siobhan Carroll.

Access to the new Library is via the Law Library on the ground floor. A bridge connects the Main Library to the extension. If you want a preview of the new Library, you can connect to a [visual tour](#).

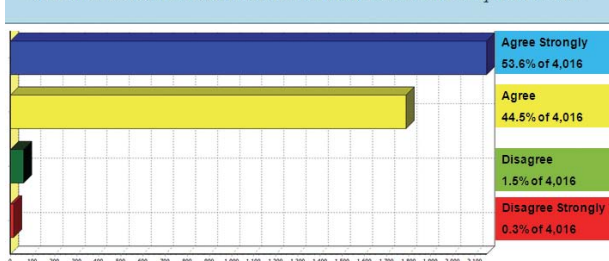
Máire, Jane and Siobhan will also be pleased to welcome you in person to the Library. Note that the Library and its resources are available to all students and staff.



**PLAY MOVIE**  
in Windows Media Player

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"IReL has Contributed to Increased Irish Research Competitiveness"



## Focus on Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies

There is a dedicated team available to support the information and research needs of students, staff and researchers in the College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Celtic Studies.

This team can assist users in identifying relevant resources, searching key resources, managing references, preparing a literature review, keeping up-to-date etc. One-to-one or group training can be provided as required.



**Mary O'Leary** is the Information Assistant for the College of Arts, Social Sciences & Celtic Studies. Mary brings extensive experience of information work from her previous post as a Senior Library Assistant at the Library's Information Desk.



**Niamh Walsh** is a Subject Librarian, providing support for academic staff, undergraduate and postgraduate students for the following Schools:

- Geography & Archaeology
- Humanities (English, History, Huston School of Film and Digital Media, Irish Studies, Journalism, Philosophy)
- Languages, Literatures and Cultures (Classics, French, Gaeilge, German, Italian, Spanish)

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**Kathleen Burke** is also a Subject Librarian for the College. She provides support for the following Schools:

- Education
- Political Science & Sociology
- Psychology

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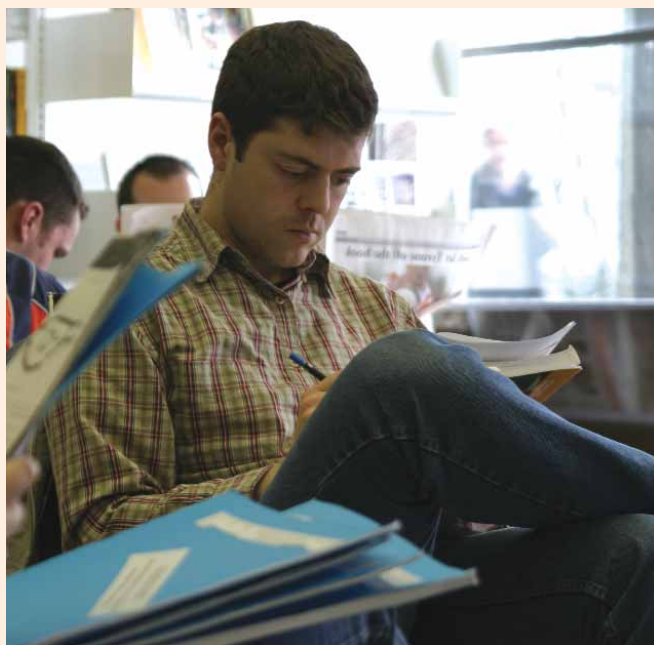
**Gwen Ryan** is the Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Research Support Librarian. Gwen provides support for researchers including MLitts and PhDs.

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## Library Newspaper Holdings

The Library recognizes the value of newspapers as a primary source for research purposes and its collection is continually being developed. International as well as Irish national, regional and local newspapers are all part of the collection, with holdings accessible either online or in printed or microfilm format. Copies of printed newspapers are held in storage, while the current issues are available in the Browsing Room. More information, including a listing of our holdings and their location is available online at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/np/>



Newspaper Databases accessible via [e-Knowledge](#) include:

- Irish Times, with access to the last 12 months
- Irish Times Digital Archive (1785-1985)
- New York Times Archive (1851-2005)
- Irish Newspaper archive (a range from the 1700s)
- UK & Éire Reference Centre
- 17th-18th Century Burney Collection
- NEXIS (containing International and Irish newspapers)

For further assistance:  
E [specialcollections@nuigalway.ie](mailto:specialcollections@nuigalway.ie)  
T 091 492543 EXT 2543

## Improve your chances of funding

Are you and your team considering undertaking a systematic review or submitting a research proposal? If so, the Library can support you in a number of ways:



- The processes involved in carrying out an effective literature search for a systematic review.
- The selection of appropriate electronic and printed resources (published and non-published) to search.
- Support on searching relevant databases.
- Support on acquiring and using EndNote.
- Processes for Library related services such as Inter Library Loan requests and more.

For more information, or to discuss your specific requirements on this or other aspects of support for your research via the Library, please contact Rosarie Coughlan, Research Support Librarian for Science, Technology and Medicine.

E [rosarie.coughlan@nuigalway.ie](mailto:rosarie.coughlan@nuigalway.ie)  
T 091 495697 EXT 5697

## Recent acquisitions

A number of new electronic resources have been purchased by the Library in recent months. We are in the process of completing the purchase of [Springer Protocols](#), which contains more than 18,000 molecular biology and biomedical protocols, many from the classic series *Methods in Molecular Biology*, with a further 2,000 protocols to be added each year.

[Current Topics in Developmental Biology](#) is a comprehensive survey of the major topics in the field of developmental biology. It is a valuable resource for researchers in animal and plant development, as well as for students and professionals who want an introduction to cellular and molecular mechanisms of development.

The [Semantic Wave 2008 Report](#) was recently purchased and the PDF is available on the network for viewing. Another recent acquisition was the Spring Ebook Collection on Earth & Environmental Science.

Springer Images is a database consisting of over 1.5 million images drawn from Springer journals, eBooks, protocols and reference works, as well as ImagesMD and Biology Image Library. Taken together with the [Primal Pictures](#) database purchased last year, this will form a fine companion series for anatomical and medical tuition.

A number of electronic copies of core books were purchased across Colleges and Schools. We would be interested in hearing suggestions from all schools in order to expand our electronic book collection.

Recently available online resources in science include:

- [Encyclopedia of Life Sciences](#)
- [Wiley Encyclopedia of Chemical Biology](#)
- [Encyclopedia of Ecology](#)
- [CAB Abstracts and Global Health](#) via WoK
- [Springer Handbook of Enzymes](#)
- [Current Topics in Microbiology and Immunology](#)

Any department wishing to purchase electronic resources or electronic books should contact the relevant Subject Librarian or Neil O'Brien:

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Acquisitions Librarian  
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T 091 493338 EXT 3338

## Connacht Tribune presentation to NUI, Galway.



Pictured at the Presentation of *Connacht Tribune Centenary Supplement* on 22 May 2009 are NUI Galway President, Dr James J. Browne; Dave Hickey, CEO and Company Secretary, Connacht Tribune; Dave O'Connell, Group Editor, Connacht Tribune; Sean Duignan, former Government Press Secretary and former broadcaster; and Stan Shields, Photographer with the Connacht Tribune.

## Mike Faherty hangs up his keys

After 21 years working as a Library Steward and 39 years in the University, Mike Faherty has retired. Many colleagues both past and present gathered to celebrate Mike's contribution to the University at a farewell party on 24 July.

Frank D'arcy, Head Steward, shared some thoughts on his time working with Mike:

I first met Mike in September 1996. I had no idea of the impact and guidance he would offer in the years to come. His ability to deal with every situation with such honesty and capability is something that only those who have had the privilege of working closely with Mike could fully comprehend.

His presence always offered us reassurance, as his opinion and guidance were invaluable to all of us in the Library. The Stewards especially feel blessed and privileged to have worked with him. He has paved a path upon which we will now have to walk without him.

Those who have worked close with Mike will know the dedication and commitment that he gave to the Library, NUI Galway and its students. Mike can hold his head up high when he says he worked in the Library, because he really did!

However, our loss is his family's gain. We wish Mike, and his wife Myra, many years of good health and happiness. A heart felt thanks to Mike, from all of us.



Library Stewards, past and present, together with the University Librarian wish Mike well on his retirement



Mike Faherty with his grandson Aaron at his retirement function

**Frank D'Arcy**  
Head Steward

## Library Exhibitions



Pictured are John Cox, University Librarian, with Bill Scanlan, retired Lighthouse Keeper, at the launch of the Lighthouse Exhibition on 25 May to coincide with the Volvo Ocean Race Stopover.

The current exhibition has been put together by staff from Special Collections & Archives to commemorate the 60th anniversary (12 July 1949) of the death of Dr. Douglas Hyde, writer and first president of Ireland. Situated in the foyer of the James Hardiman Library, it includes copies of Dr. Hyde's writings in both Irish and English and items from the de hÍde archival collection. It will be on view until 5 September.





**[www.library.nuigalway.ie](http://www.library.nuigalway.ie)**

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