



UTS:
Library

2014

YEAR IN REVIEW



Building the Future Library

Our vision is to deliver a world-leading academic library connecting people, knowledge and culture at the heart of UTS's campus. In 2014 we reached a significant milestone in achieving this goal with the implementation of our Library Retrieval System, a state-of-the-art facility which will ensure the preservation and growth of the University's valuable physical collections, while enabling the creation of vibrant new educational spaces.



Library Retrieval System

Library Retrieval System

The Library Retrieval System (LRS), a significant component of the City Campus Masterplan, went online in June. Delivered on time, and on budget, the state-of-the-art storage and delivery system houses almost 500,000 of the older and less-frequently borrowed items from the UTS Library collection. The system stretches an impressive five stories under Alumni Green, and is the first underground system of its kind in Australia and the first to utilise Radio Frequency Identification tags (RFID) to assist in circulation and inventory control. The initial load of items from the City Campus Library was completed ahead of schedule, and in August following consultation with relevant Deans, the decision was made to also ingest low-use items from the Kuring-gai Campus Library, significantly reducing the project timeline.

Enhancements to our online catalogue and discovery and delivery services have ensured that these older materials remain readily accessible. Items in the LRS can be requested via the catalogue, with SMS and email notifications to alert users when their item is ready for collection at either the City or Kuring-gai Campus Library. We have also implemented a number of new tools to enhance browsing our collection online. Our innovative Collection Ribbon visualises the library collection and can be used to refine search results to a specific subject area or browse by subject and Dewey number. Shelf View presents a visual representation of a physical book shelve, allowing users to browse books digitally, regardless of their physical location. To further enhance access we have implemented 'same site requesting' from our ArticleReach service, which will allow users to request a scanned copy of a journal article if it is from one of the older print journals now located in the LRS.

Blake Library Refurbishment

The LRS has enabled a significant repurposing of space in the City Campus Library. The space has shifted from one dominated by books to somewhere centred around students, academics and researchers. The City Campus Library Refurbishment project began in December 2014, and will lead to a large increase in group study spaces, as well as more specialised areas such as a media production lab, Games Room and an enhanced Researchers' Space which will be available in early 2015.

Sustainability in the LRS

Like all aspects of the City Campus Masterplan, the LRS building meets the most stringent sustainability standards. The underground environment has helped to achieve a 5-star green rating, by reducing lighting, heating and cooling requirements.

It is not just the building however which has addressed sustainability issues. Our service model has also eschewed energy consuming options in favour of foot-power. Deliveries from the LRS to the City Campus Library are made several times a day by Library staff using trolleys or backpacks to carry books.

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Inspiring Graduate Success



The Library plays a pivotal role in the provision of learning and teaching support services to students and staff. We are increasingly providing innovative learning experiences and focusing on the development of graduate attributes that reflect the nature of today's global workplace.



Learning2014

The Learning2014 initiative introduced new approaches to learning and teaching at UTS to provide a rich learning environment. In response, UTS Library made enhancements to its digital and information literacy program.

This program supports the development of research and information management skills that help students succeed in their studies and into their careers. In 2014 it was expanded to also target academic staff who required support in converting to new blended modes of teaching.

A Learning2014 team was established and worked to convert face-to-face classes and workshops to more engaging blended and flipped modes of learning, created

new online training modules delivered via social media channels, and produced online study guides providing information on open educational resources in each discipline. Workshops and forums were held for academic staff in using multimedia and open education resources in their teaching. In 2014 the program reached almost 22,000 students, and over 350 academic staff.

Gamification

Library staff continued to explore the gamification of learning in our successful information literacy program. Experimenting with these new approaches has led to the introduction of gaming elements in standard information skills classes, resulting in a more engaging experience for students. For example

the interactive tool mQlicker has been introduced in Orientation classes while scratch cards for quizzes helped Engineering Communication Students develop information skills in a hands-on and fun way. UTS Library's Play Day continues to be a tremendously successful aspect of the University's orientation program. The event introduces first year students to the Library and helps develop critical library knowledge and skills in a

relaxed and engaging atmosphere. Amongst the many activities on offer the popular Zombie Scavenger Hunt saw students develop basic information finding skills in a playful game-like scenario. UTS Library also played host to a LATN (Libraries of the Australian Technology Network) Webinar on games and gamification in education, featuring international speakers.



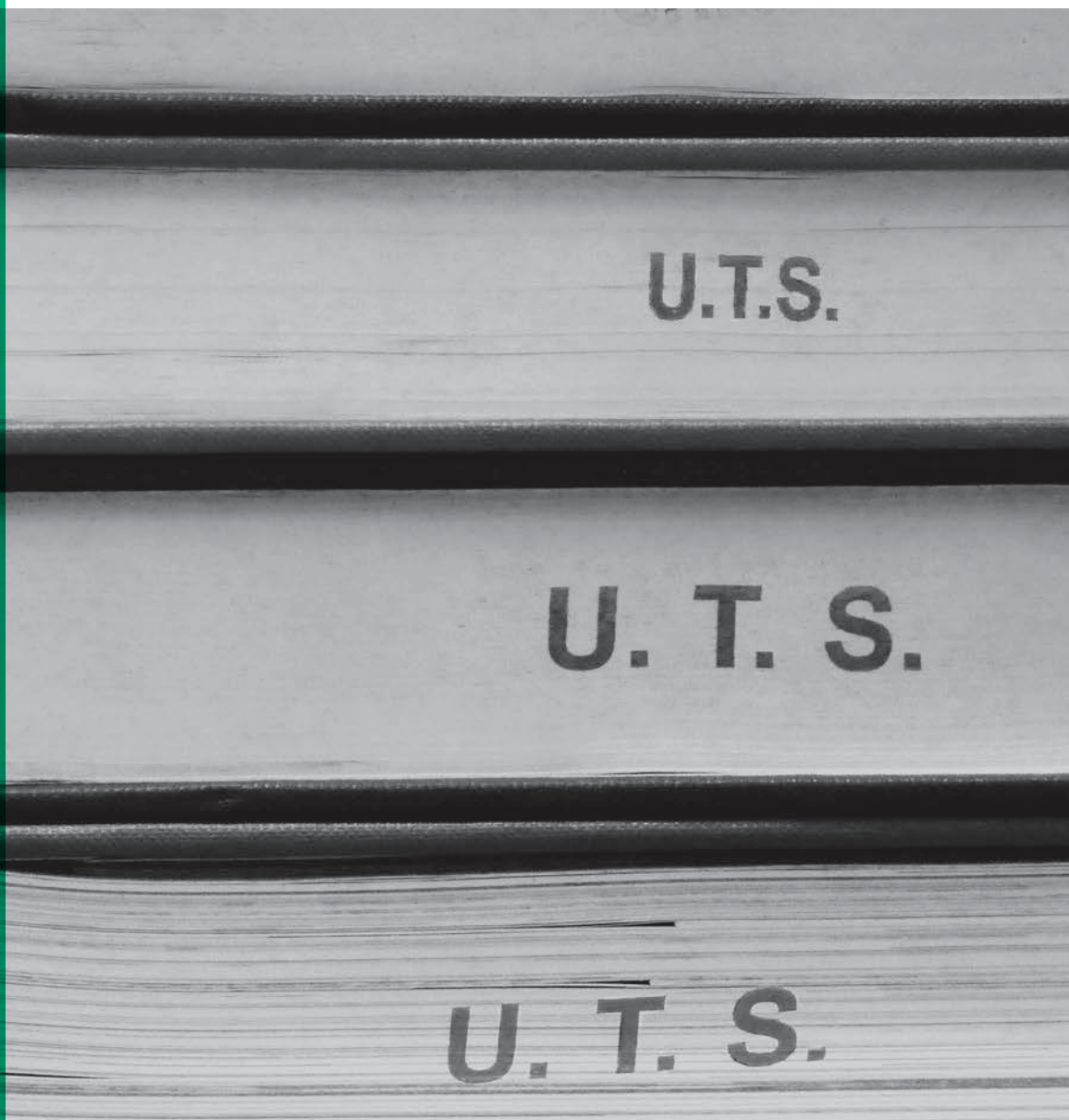
Our zombies hide amongst the books at Play Day 2014

Assignment HELP in the Library

In 2014 we continued our highly successful collaboration with HELPS, offering drop-in assignment help sessions at both the City and Kuring-gai Campus Libraries throughout semester. Held at the Research Help Desks, expert HELPS advisors were on hand to assist in understanding assignment questions and developing successful study strategies. The drop-in sessions were the perfect complement to the assistance Library staff can provide in finding and managing information.

Article Reach

ArticleReach is an online service allowing UTS staff and students to access the journal collections of other international and Australian academic libraries. Previously only available to postgraduate students, in 2014 UTS Library opened ArticleReach services up to undergraduate students, significantly extending access to valuable research collections to all UTS staff and students.





Enhancing Research Performance



The Library has a crucial role in increasing the scale, quality and impact of UTS research and developing future researchers, through the provision of high-quality collections, services and researcher training programs.

Research Week

Research Week is the centrepiece of the Library's researcher development program. Aimed primarily at higher degree research students - although also well attended by more established researchers and undergraduates planning their research career - it introduces the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed as a researcher, with workshops and panel sessions on topics as diverse as tips and tricks for completing your PhD, literature searching, data management and visualisation, publishing and more. The annual event is a collaborative effort across many areas supporting research at UTS, including the Graduate Research School, the Research Innovation Office, Intersect, and Library staff.

Following Research Week the Library showcased an extensive program of events and workshops throughout the year. The Library is committed to supporting researchers at every stage of the research cycle, from finding information to

promoting completed research. This year we added new sessions on data security, researcher identity management and using social media as a researcher to our line-up, to help researchers adapt to the ever-changing research landscape



Shut Up & Write

Shut Up & Write is the Library's popular writing bootcamp targeting PhD students and early career researchers. Utilising the 'Pomodoro Technique', students are given 25 minute intervals in which to focus exclusively on their writing in a supportive environment. These writing sessions assist in the completion rates of PhD projects, and are well received by students.



UTS ePRESS

UTS ePRESS is one of the largest open access scholarly publishers in Australasia. In 2014 UTS ePRESS celebrated 10 years of operation, a journey that began with one publication, *PORTAL: Journal of Multidisciplinary International Studies*, and has grown to house 11 academic journals and numerous open access scholarly monographs. Our 10th Anniversary was marked by a number of significant achievements. ePRESS published three new monographs in 2014, including *Voice/Presence/Absence*, the second in the MediaObject Monograph Series. This exciting experiment in digital publishing is available for free through the

iBook Store and explores the intersections of art practice and research in a multimodal format. Each UTS ePRESS journal was listed in the latest Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) journal list, reflecting the quality and standing of our journals within their discipline areas. In addition our journals achieved the new Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) Seal, an international measure providing rigorous standards of high quality scholarship and transparency around open access publishing. True to our aspirations to be a leader in ethical, open access publishing, all journals published by UTS ePRESS converted to Creative Commons CC-BY licenses in 2014 - ensuring the broadest dissemination of these works for reading and reuse while protecting the rights of the author to control their works.

Showcasing UTS Research to the World through OPUS

In 2014, the university introduced a new research publication management tool, Symplectic. Symplectic will provide a simple interface through which researchers can record all of their research publications and manage them for research quality exercises such as the Excellence in Research for Australia initiative and the Higher Education Research Data Collection.

Symplectic also enables UTS researchers to upload a copy of their research publications to the university repository OPUS (Open Publications of UTS Scholars) which is managed by the UTS Library. Works uploaded to OPUS will become accessible via search engines such as Google Scholar, increasing the potential for citation and impact.

In 2014, the size and reach of OPUS was significantly increased with the introduction of the UTS Open Access Policy. An open access policy allows our research to be accessible to government, industry and the wider community: particularly pertinent to UTS where our focus is on research with real-world impact.

OPUS achieved significant growth this year, reaching more than 26,000 publications (up 15 per cent from 2013).





Connecting with our Community

UTS Library is a meeting place for students and staff from all disciplines and the wider community of industry, alumni and UTS partners, offering excellent spaces for learning, research, collaboration and connection. Of equal importance are our virtual spaces: the continually evolving Library website, our social media presence and other online services. Use of these services and client feedback about them continues to be strong, with over 1,080,000 visitors through our doors in 2014, almost 80,000 people helped at our physical and virtual service desks, and over 3,380,000 visits to our website.



China Library

In 2014, UTS received the gift of a China Library from the Government of the People's Republic of China. The China Library is an extensive collection of books, audio-visual material, photographs and interactive technology. Madame Cui Yuying, Vice Minister of China's State Council Information Office, formally opened the Library on 18 November, with dignitaries including Bob Carr and Dr Chau Chak Wing in attendance. The China Library provides a rich resource for students and staff to examine Chinese culture and history, and is a valuable addition to our Library collection.

Digital Collections

An increasing focus in academia is on the retention and reuse of research data and Library staff work actively with researchers to select, digitise and describe these collections of original research data to ensure their ongoing preservation and use the development of new knowledge. 2014 saw two important digital archives launched for public access.





Curations and exhibitions

The Library develops and promotes a broad range of cultural and creative spaces and events to fulfil its role as a hub connecting people, knowledge and culture at the heart of the UTS Campus

In 2014, 'Curations' a series of 6 exhibitions and associated events, were developed to showcase the creative research of academic staff and students from a variety of UTS Faculties. Items from the UTS Library Special Collections and general collection were displayed alongside the works to create immersive themed spaces to coincide with external Sydney Festivals including: Sydney Fashion festival, Sydney Design 2014, Ultimo Science Festival, Sydney Writers Festival and the Sydney Architecture Festival.

"The Lives of Others: New Perspectives on North Korea" an exhibition of photographs capturing the real everyday life of North Koreans, taken by visiting scholars, aid workers and students presented by Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre, UTS was exhibited with an official opening by Professor Bob Carr, Director of the UTS Australia China Relations Institute

Artist in Residence Program

The Library's third Artist in Residence team of Elisa Lee and Adam Hinshaw began to explore the Library Retrieval System, (LRS) in new and wonderful ways. This ongoing project creates a sound scape questioning, 'what if books could talk to each other?' and creatively visualises the LRS in real time.



Open Access

Each year Open Access Week communicates the importance of the open access movement: ensuring that the benefits of research and education are available to everyone, free of financial, technical and legal barriers. UTS Library celebrated from 20 – 26 of October, by hosting a range of workshops around the

open access movement and the benefits of publishing 'open'. The week had a substantial increase in attendance rates from 2013 and of particular note was the film screening of *The Internet's Own Boy*, a documentary following the story of information activist Aaron Swartz and the lecture presented by Alex Holcombe from the University of Sydney about the future of the open access movement and its implications for students and academic libraries.



Food for Fines

2014 was an exceptional year for Food for Fines. Now in its fourth year, Food for Fines offers exemptions from Library fines in exchange for food donations. Food items donated by clients are distributed by Mission Australia to the homeless of Sydney, with each item taking \$3 off the client's total library fines. 2014 was our most successful year yet, with over 1800 items donated to Mission Australia.

Left: Alex Holcombe presents at Open Access Week 2014. Right: Mission Australia collecting our Food for Fines donations.



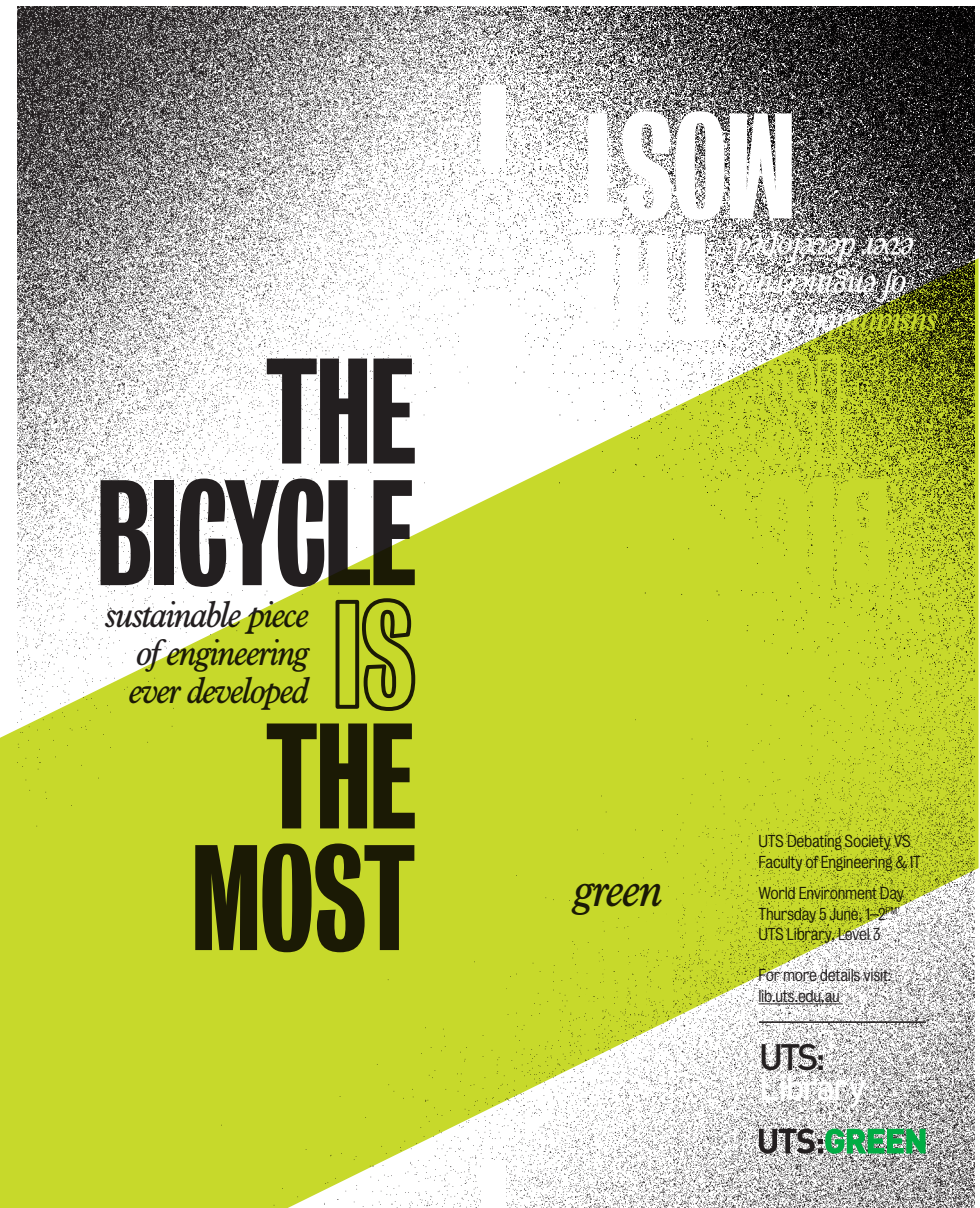
Earth Hour

The theme for Earth Hour 2014 focused on the impact of climate change on the Great Barrier Reef. The Library tapped into this global event through a photo competition. Students contributed to a mural on the Library's Think Play Discuss blackboard, and posted photos of their additions on Instagram. The competition ran over three weeks and was a talking point for students entering the City Campus Library, raising awareness of this important environmental issue

Earth Hour Logo

Green Week Debate

The Green Week Debate is a yearly collaboration between UTS: Green and UTS Library, held alongside World Environment Day. The topic for 2014 was 'the bicycle is the most sustainable piece of engineering ever developed', providing material for an entertaining and spirited debate between the Faculty of Engineering and IT and the UTS Debating Society.

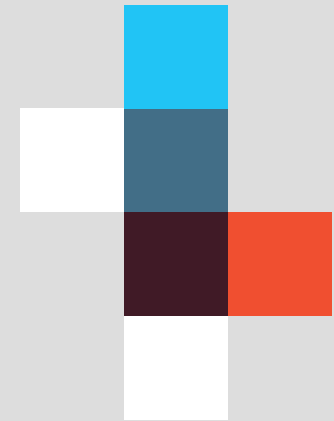


Green Week Debate Poster



UTS Library high-level performance indicators

	2013	2014
Facilitate discovery and access to scholarly information		
1. High use material usage (items/student EFTSL)	31.1	30.4
2. Journals cited by UTS scholars in the UTS Library collection (% sampled via Scopus)	90.8%	97.3%
Develop information-related capabilities		
3. Use of online information literacy tools (page views/student EFTSL)	35.1	41.2
4. Participation in information development programs (% total of student EFTSL)	81.7%	74.5%
Promote learning via provision of physical and digital environments		
5. Visits to UTS Library website (average page views/month)	234,404	281,900
6. Visits to UTS Library in person (average visits/month)	100,196	90,206
Enable scholarship		
7. Research consultation assistance to academic staff (% of staff population)	59%	42.6%
8. Ranking of UTSeScholarship (Webometrics world ranking at January 2014)	71 - Top 5%	70 Top 4%
9. Visits to UTSePress open access journals (average page views/month)	39,012	35,457
10. UTSeScholarship research collection (scholarly work items)	22,242	30,125
Develop the Library of the Future		
11. Progress against schedule (weeks ahead [+] or behind [-] at end of year)	0	0



Photography Credit

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