

2015 YEAR IN REVIEW



1 BUILDING THE FUTURE LIBRARY

05

2 INSPIRING GRADUATE SUCCESS

10

3 ENHANCING RESEARCH PERFORMANCE

15

4 CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITY

20



Building the Future Library

At the heart of campus life, UTS Library hosts more than a million visits a year at its Haymarket location and almost three million online. Every day, students, staff, alumni and other UTS partners access this vibrant hub for intellectual and cultural engagement. Here the physical and digital are blended thoughtfully to provide the environments, resources and support needed for future-focused learning and world-class research.

BLAKE LIBRARY REFURBISHMENT

Welcoming 3,300 visitors on average each day, our physical library remains vital to the UTS learning experience. A major refurbishment completed in 2015 is helping to shift awareness of the Library's purpose, from being a facility that stores books to becoming an even busier centre for collaboration and innovation, learning and research.

Having moved low-use items in the Library Collection to our new Library Retrieval System during 2014, this year we were able to create multiple new learning spaces and install an additional 300 seats and 200 computers (now totalling 1,600 seats and 400 computers). A guiding principle of the project was flexibility: finding solutions that can be transformed over time as new uses for our physical library emerge.

An experimental approach to the refurbishment is allowing Library staff to trial ideas, measure usage and gather feedback, which will inform the design of our purpose-built Future Library, scheduled to open in 2019.

RESEARCHERS' CENTRE

Higher-degree research students and staff can now work in a dedicated environment, accommodating up to 25 researchers at a time. Offering height-adjustable desks, PC and Mac computers, an adjoining 12-person meeting room and lockers for researchers involved in long-term projects, the centre has proved an instant hit, attracting more than 250 visits a week.



INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP STUDY SPACES

While individual study rooms and individual booths on our silent floor continue to provide quiet environments for scholarly reflection, additional rooms for group projects are helping students learn to work collaboratively in teams—a graduate attribute increasingly valued by industry. All study spaces are integrated with the Library Collection, providing Library visitors with easy access to research materials and support staff.





ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGIES ROOM

Students with special needs can access these dedicated study spaces, expanded from one to two rooms (with an additional seven seats) during 2015. The smaller of the refurbished rooms is devoted to students using talk-aloud technology.

EVENTS SPACE

Students can take part in varied learning experiences and engage directly with researchers in this highly adaptable venue. All furniture is flexible and built on wheels, allowing easy reconfiguration for workshops, lectures, debates, screenings, exhibitions and more. This popular new

space is also helping to embed learning experiences within the physical library.

EDITING STUDIO

With industry placing increasing value on multimedia production skills in graduates, the Library provides all students and staff with access to a multimedia editing and production space. The studio offers a range of industry standard applications such as Adobe Creative Cloud, Final Cut and Ableton Live, as well as microphones, a musical keyboard, a MIDI controller and other equipment. Current visitors include the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building, and Faculty of Engineering and IT.

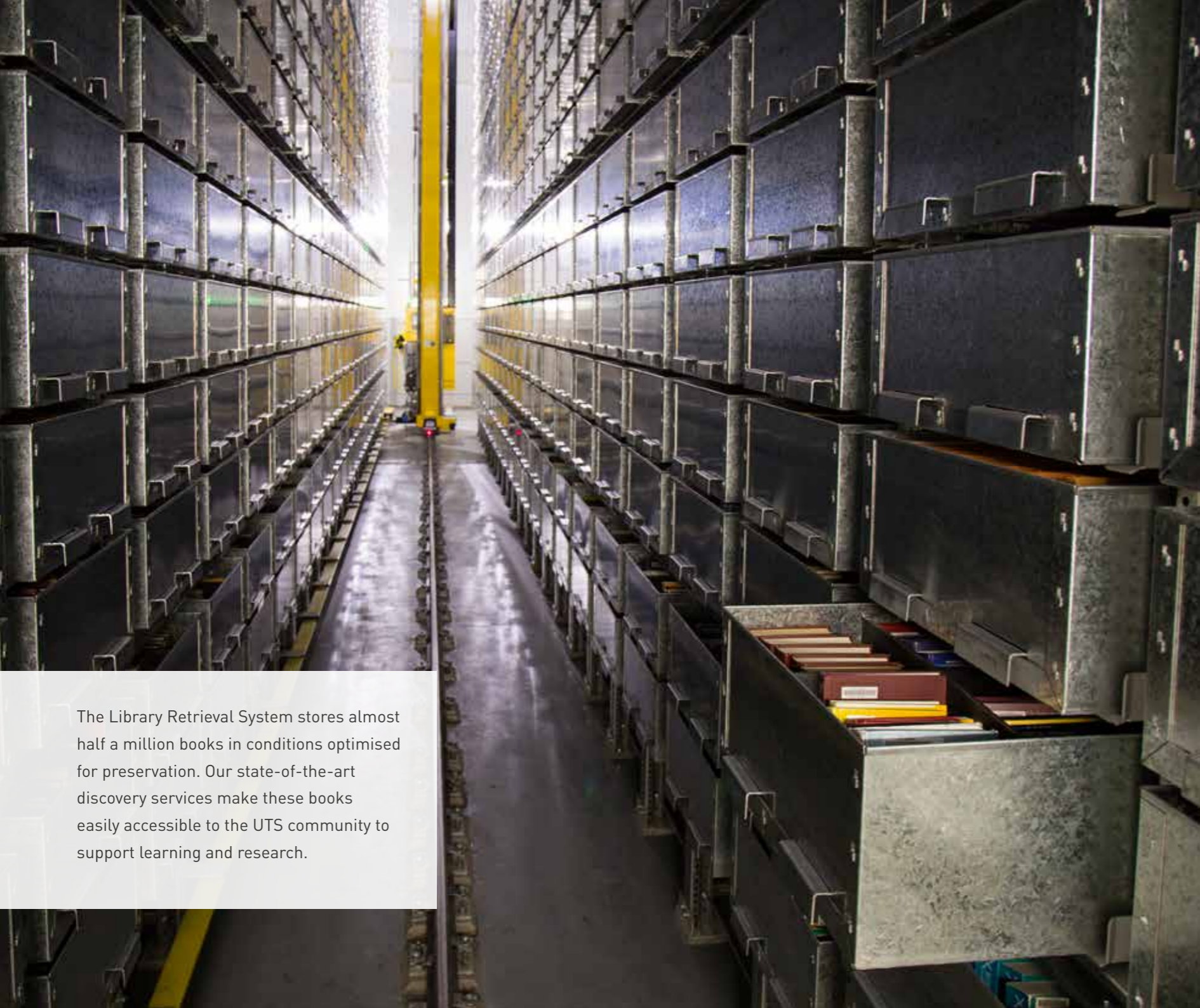


GAMES ROOM

While students consistently use this new room for study breaks and bonding with peers, academics are discovering its value as a venue for tutorials. A multipurpose space, offering access to the latest video game consoles and equipment, the room is conducive to all kinds of collaborative activities.

With play at the heart of learning and video games a popular contemporary form of storytelling, the Games Room exemplifies our aim to build innovative solutions with future relevance.

'The space was perfectly designed for the kind of collaborative learning we try to encourage in our classes. The relaxed environment meant that students interacted naturally with more of their classmates than we usually see in a tutorial'—Dr James Meese, Lecturer, School of Communication



The Library Retrieval System stores almost half a million books in conditions optimised for preservation. Our state-of-the-art discovery services make these books easily accessible to the UTS community to support learning and research.

LIBRARY RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Students, staff and external visitors have praised our Library Retrieval System for the ease with which it keeps the entire Library Collection accessible. No small achievement, with 485,000 books, journals and objects—or around two-thirds of the total collection—housed in 12,000 steel storage bins, five stories underground.

Celebrating 12 months of operation in September 2015, we have been able to validate this positive feedback with a full year of retrieval data. And in line with forecast expectations, Library visitors requested more than 16,500 items from the system during 2015. A user experience designer has been appointed to refine

our discovery tools and the online user experience to boost access even further.

A playful visualisation of the Library Retrieval System created by our 2014 Artists-in-Residence, Elisa Lee and Adam Hinshaw, went on permanent display during 2015. The work, titled 11-808, pulls live data from the system to give requests and returns a visual form, demonstrating actual use across all faculties. Building on the success of 11-808, Elisa and Adam have been commissioned to create a similar data visualisation at the State Library of NSW.

KURING-GAI CAMPUS PHOTO ARCHIVE

Past and present members of the University community can share their memories of the much-loved UTS Kuring-gai Campus and Library, which closed

in late 2015, via this new online archive. Created by Library staff, the archive preserves a special place and celebrates an important chapter of UTS history.



Inspiring Graduate Success

Students, researchers and staff alike access UTS Library to expand their information literacy, digital literacy and research skills. Library staff continually innovate to provide all clients with essential learning in these areas, and help students prepare for success in a changing global workplace. Around 21,000 people attend our on-site programs each year, with many more accessing tutorials online. In the University's latest student satisfaction survey, the Library's online information resources achieved a score of 92%, the highest satisfaction rate out of all support areas and services at UTS.

LEARNING.FUTURES

A dedicated Library team was appointed to support learning.futures, a University-wide initiative enhancing the UTS learning experience beyond the traditional lecture format toward more engaging, future-focused curriculum delivery.

Library staff play a vital part in learning.futures, collaborating with academics to find ways of transforming face-to-face teaching at UTS. Together we have developed more active approaches, including blended and flipped modes of learning. In particular library staff have helped identify and embed multimedia and open education materials into classes. A standout example involved researching and evaluating a range of videos on media studies theories, which were incorporated in a new subject launched in 2016.

Staff and students were also offered new workshops on topics such as finding and editing educational videos, and understanding copyright and Open Educational Resources. Online study guides were created, addressing Open Educational Resources within each discipline.

“It’s great to have such expert contributions to learning.futures elements in Media Power 54080”

Dr Catriona Bonfiglioli, Senior Lecturer,
School of Communication

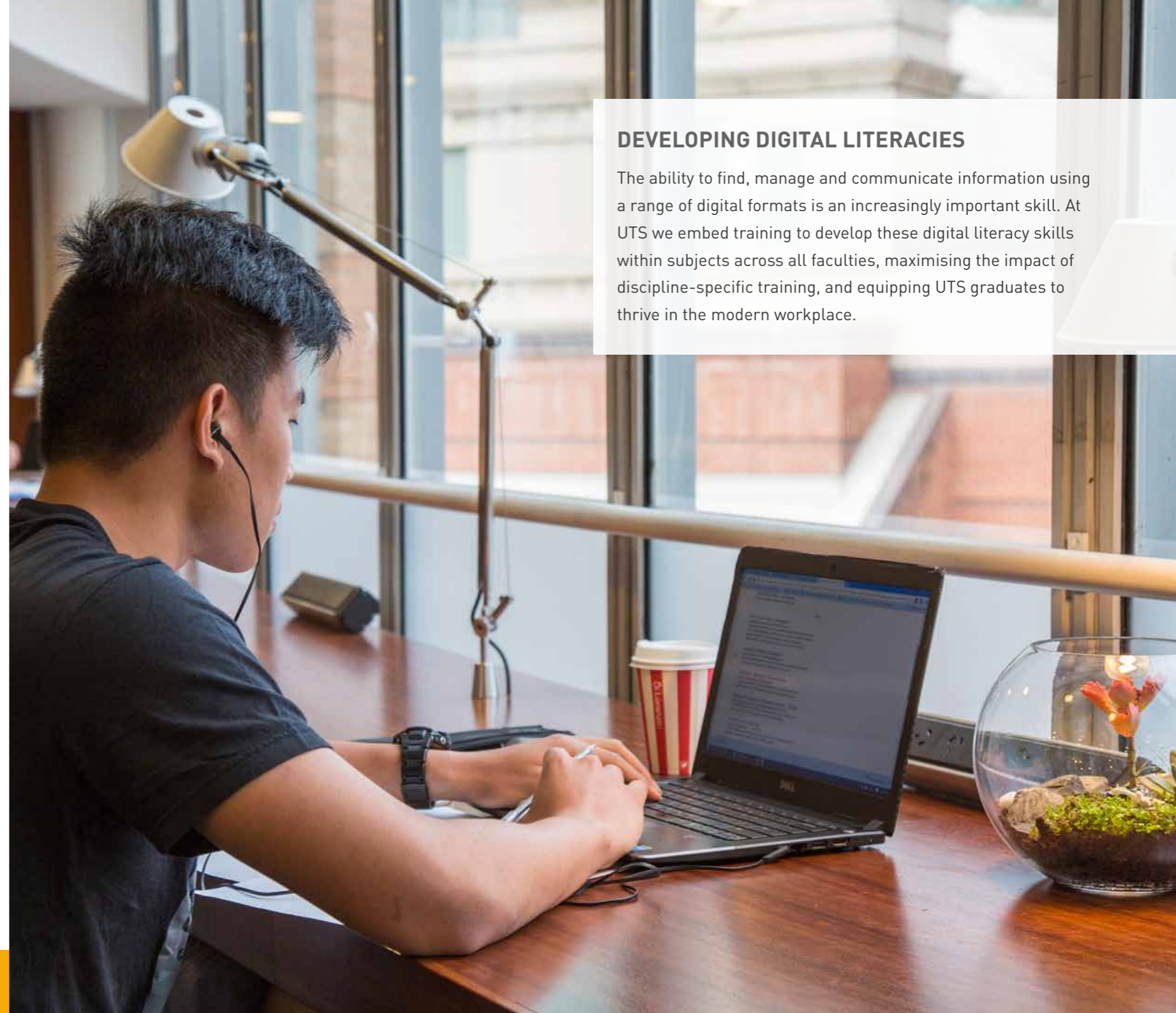
LYNDA.COM

Another example of the Library’s practical support for learning.futures is through Lynda.com. Students and staff gained access to the Lynda.com platform in 2015, and headed in droves to this vast collection of online video tutorials to build their technology, creative and business skills.

Altogether more than 10,000 UTS students and staff accessed the site via the Library and viewed an impressive 270,000-plus tutorials. Academics are now assigning Lynda.com videos within subjects across all faculties.

DEVELOPING DIGITAL LITERACIES

The ability to find, manage and communicate information using a range of digital formats is an increasingly important skill. At UTS we embed training to develop these digital literacy skills within subjects across all faculties, maximising the impact of discipline-specific training, and equipping UTS graduates to thrive in the modern workplace.



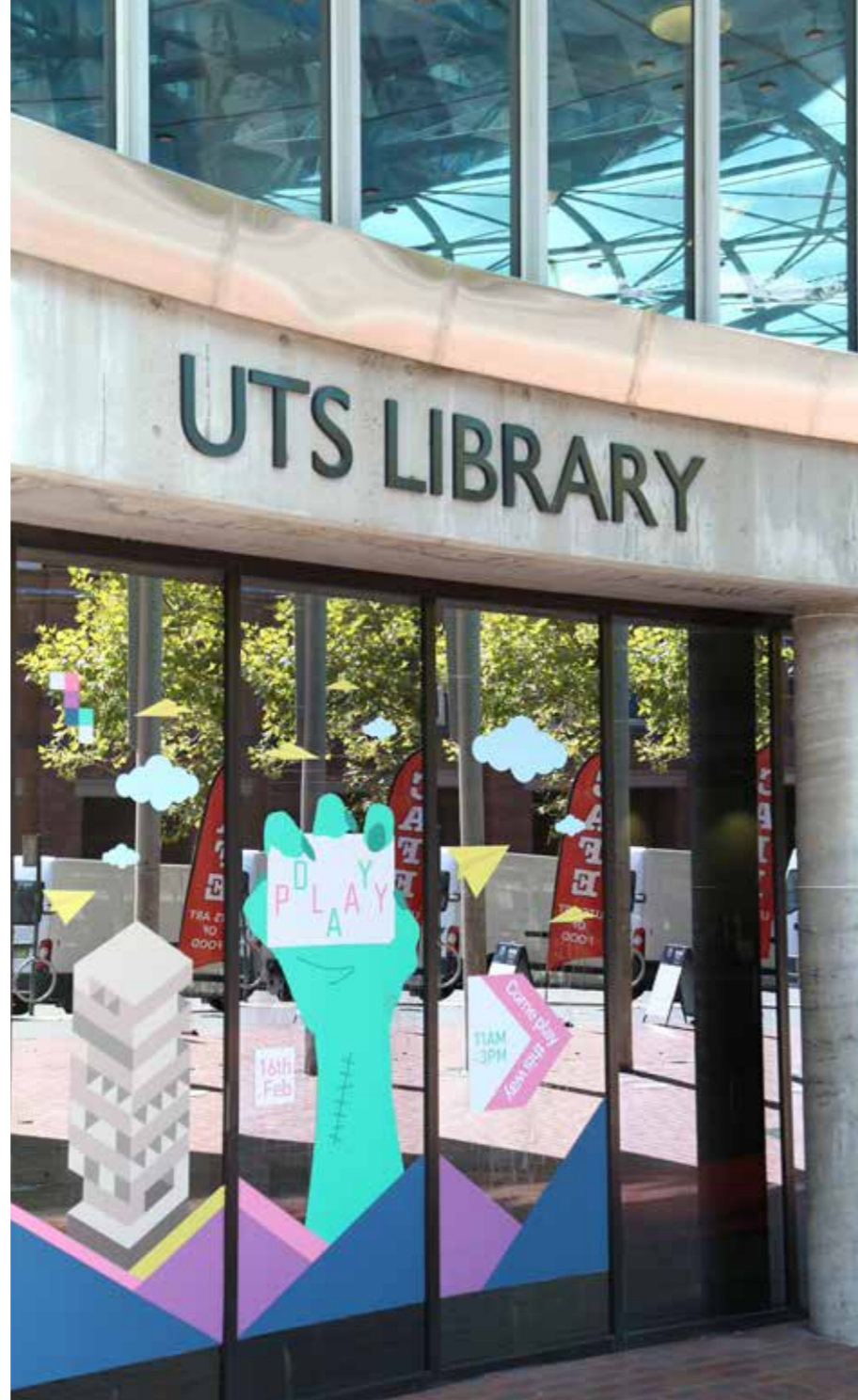
HEADSUP

New students in particular have benefited from our HeadsUp initiative, a self-directed digital literacy program launched on the Library website during 2015. This series of video tutorials covers vital topics such as 'Academic writing' and 'Evaluating information'. Each video contains quiz questions to test learning, which can be embedded in UTSOnline.

STUDENT JOURNALS

High-achieving students get the chance to publish their best writing in UTS ePRESS open access student journals, sharing their early work while building credibility as serious practitioners and researchers in their fields.

We proudly launched 'NEW: Emerging Scholars in Australian Indigenous Studies' during 2015, now published alongside the annual 'PAM Review'.



PLAY DAY

Zombies rose from the dead and headed to the Library in even greater numbers in 2015, to take part in our annual orientation event for first-year students. A Zombie Scavenger Hunt led students around the Library, following clues, while developing essential information literacy skills.

With attendance increasing 30% year on year, Play Day is a popular way for newcomers on campus to meet other students and Library staff, and learn how to take full advantage of the Library's many resources.





Enhancing Research Performance

Researchers can increase the scale, quality and impact of their work with vital support from UTS Library. Our comprehensive collection, services and training programs aim to foster leading researchers of the future, while our many open access initiatives help to disseminate current UTS research and scholarship to the world.

RESEARCHER TRAINING

UTS Library enabled researchers at UTS to better manage their data, build their professional profiles and maximise the impact of their work via expanded training programs in 2015. A full calendar of tailored workshops were provided throughout the year, alongside almost 200 individual research consultations.

Research Week boosted ongoing training opportunities at the Library. Researchers could take part in skill development workshops, hear speakers from around the University, connect with peers across all faculties and gain support for their work at this annual specialised event.

Learn. Teach. Research 2015 featured workshops for academics in three key strategic areas: research impact, learning, futures and data science. Resources from this three-day program are still available through the [Research@UTS:Library](#) blog.



OPEN ACCESS ADVOCACY

UTS Library remained committed to open access during 2015, finding ways to advance unrestricted global access to information and educational resources, with specific initiatives described below. Our passion for open knowledge reflects the University's strong stance on social justice and equity.

OPUS

Open Publications of UTS Scholars, better known as OPUS, is the University's institutional repository where all UTS research outputs are made publically available. In 2015, OPUS hosted more than 1.4 million downloads.

Managed by the Library, OPUS was redesigned and relaunched during 2015, and now features an enhanced interface. Library staff also assessed the copyright status of more than 3,000 items, and liaised with copyright holders to make more than half of these available as open access materials. All up, we increased the number



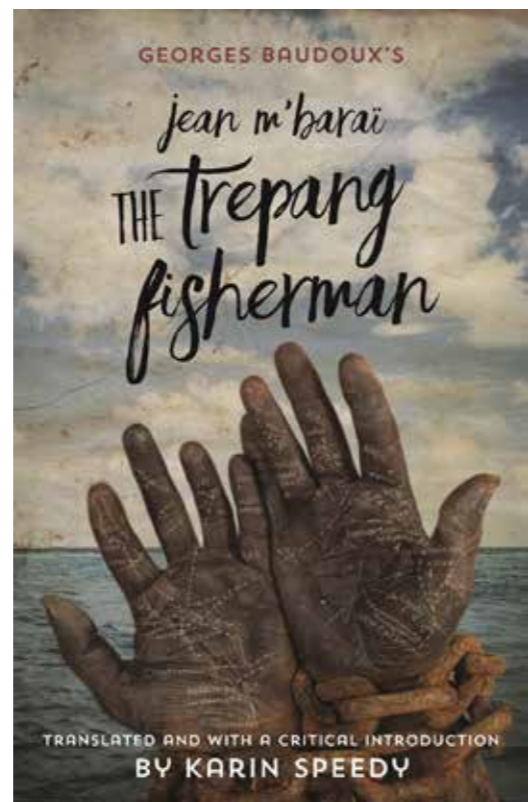
of open access items to nearly 9,800 (a third of all items), making OPUS the second-largest repository of open access materials in Australasia (Webometrics Oceania Rankings).

Items in OPUS are enhanced with high-quality metadata, and indexed in search engines such as Trove and Google Scholar. This maximises their potential for discovery and reuse, and expands the reach of UTS research to a global audience.

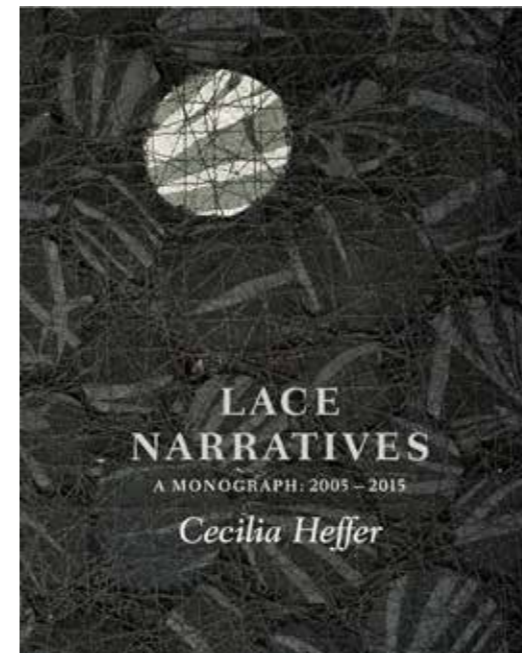


UTS ePRESS

The University's open access publishing arm, managed by the Library, continued to showcase high-quality research from diverse disciplinary fields. Three new monograph titles on three very different topics were released in 2015: *Lace Narratives*, *Creative Business in Australia* and *Georges Baudoux's Jean M'Barai The Trepang Fisherman*.



Meanwhile journals published by UTS ePRESS achieved even greater visibility during the year, attracting more than 480,000 downloads (up 12% from 2014) and appearing in around 2,000 scholarly citations. All journals were included in the 2015 Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Journal List, a benchmark for scholarly publications compiled by academics and subject experts. The journals also received the new international



DOAJ Seal, awarded by the Directory of Open Access Journals to publications that achieve a high level of openness along with high publishing standards.

UTS ePRESS provides readers and potential authors around the world with access to publishing that is free of financial, technical and legal barriers. In turn it offers a valuable platform for exceptional scholarship and helps UTS contribute to broader academic discourse.





OPEN ACCESS EVENTS

Open access advocacy during 2015 included celebrating Open Access Week, a worldwide initiative to promote the benefits of open access scholarship. At the Library, this week featured a talk by Peter Scott, Assistant DVC (Education). Peter described his experiences developing open educational resources at The Open

University in the United Kingdom, and explained how platforms such as iTunes U can be used to create unique learning experiences that enhance engagement with course materials.

UTS ePRESS and MediaObject celebrated the launch of *Lace Narratives*, a monograph exploring the work of textile artist and UTS academic Cecilia Heffer. *Lace Narratives* showcases the range of publishing options available to scholars today, released as a limited edition printed book containing actual lace samples, with a process video and an open access version of the monograph made freely available online, plus print-on-demand copies sold in hardcover and paperback formats. Editor, designer and fellow UTS academic Dr Zoë Sadokierski's research informed this experimental publishing model.

We were also pleased to work with the Creative Industries and Innovation Centre to launch *Creative Business in Australia*. Drawing on six years of professional research, industry expertise and Federal

Government support, Creative Business in Australia delivers the latest analysis of Australian creative industries, providing practitioners, professionals, researchers, students and educators with access to invaluable business insight.

The University Librarian and key staff spoke here and overseas about the University's achievements in open access publishing. Events included a panel discussion held to inform Information and Knowledge Management students about the impact of open access on their profession and learning. Belinda Tiffen, Director Library Resources Unit, and Scott Abbott, UTS eScholarship Project Manager, presented 'Measuring Quality at UTS ePRESS' at the Library Publishing Forum in Portland, in the United States. Belinda and Scott also presented 'Keep Calm and Unlock Research: Reinventing UTS ePRESS' at the Reinventing University Publishing Forum, held at the Australian National University, Canberra.



RESEARCH DATA

An area of increasing focus in academia is the retention and reuse of research data. In 2015, UTS eResearch, UTS Library eScholarship and the Library's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive collaborated to create a new Major Open Data Collection. Named the Data Hub of Australian Research in Marine and Aquatic Ecocultures, or Dharmae, this new collection draws together local, traditional and conventional knowledge to provide a cross-disciplinary source of ecocultural research data dealing with water. It was produced with financial support from the Australian National Data Service, and showcases the way data can be made openly available for reuse and further interrogation.

Library staff also worked with the Creative Industries Innovation Centre (CIIC) to create the CIIC Digital Archive as a companion to the UTS ePRESS monograph, Creative Business in Australia. The archive captures and preserves the Centre's valuable collection of business intelligence for the creative industries, including case studies, reports, articles and marketing documents. This permanent repository of business data is now available to creative businesses and industries in Australia through OPUS.

The Library also expanded its popular Research Data Management training program. Many academics were assisted through workshops and individual consultations to develop data management plans and better organise and manage their research data.



ATSIDA

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Data Archive (ATSIDA), a discrete unit within the Library, operated with renewed energy in 2015. The year saw the ATSIDA Reference Group reformed and the first dataset of cultural heritage materials relating to the Torres Strait Islands deposited in the archive, with sections of these materials repatriated to the community of Mabuiag Island in the Torres Strait.

were given the opportunity to attend a workshop with leading Indigenous lawyer Terri Janke. Titled 'Research and Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property', the workshop addressed authorship, copyright and the implications for existing research methods in relation to Indigenous traditional knowledge systems. Participants discussed how to ethically and effectively manage Indigenous research data, and protect Indigenous knowledge and cultural heritage.

"We're now better equipped to recognise, acknowledge, communicate and protect Indigenous cultural heritage and traditional knowledge. And we know where to start – in conversation with the people to whom it belongs."

Duncan Loxton – Project Officer, ATSIDA

ATSIDA also worked with UTS eResearch to launch Dharmae (see above), ensuring adequate policy, process and technical safeguards were in place to protect Indigenous cultural and intellectual property in this new Major Open Data Collection.

Indigenous higher degree research students, Library staff and UTS eResearch

Convened with UTS Jumbunna Indigenous House of Learning and the Equity and Diversity Unit, the workshop reflected ATSIDA's support for the University's social justice agenda and commitment to embedding Indigenous graduate attributes across all faculties.



Connecting with Our Community

Students and staff across all disciplines, as well as our wider community of industry, alumni and other partners, make full use of UTS Library as a meeting place. Inspiring spaces for learning, research, collaboration and connection offered at our physical location are complemented by dynamic virtual spaces, including our continually evolving website and social media platforms.

EVENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

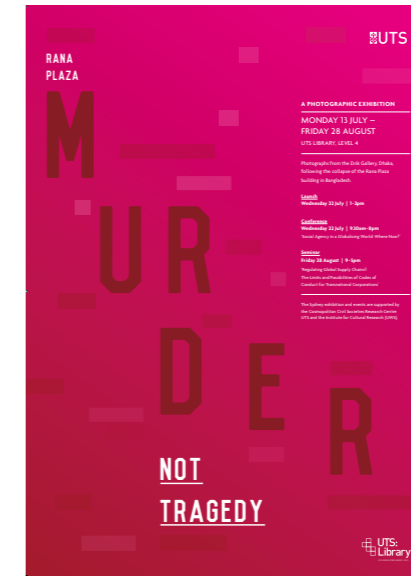
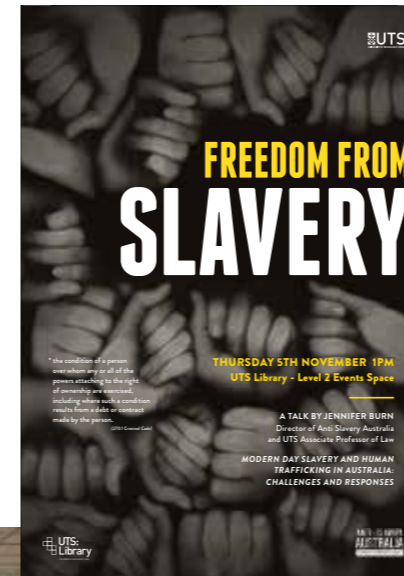
During 2015 we collaborated with University faculties, support units and external partners to deliver a busy schedule of exhibitions, seminars, conferences, talks, screenings and more. These many and varied events, help to foster a connected, inclusive and positive culture at UTS, giving form to the University's 'sticky' campus concept.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Several events in 2015 highlighted the strengths, values and real-world impact of research and academic work at UTS to a broad campus audience, while engaging the wider community in the University's intellectual and cultural life.

A leading example was Murder not Tragedy: Rana Plaza. Brought to Australia by the Australia Bangladesh Solidarity Network, this photographic exhibition documented the aftermath of the Rana Plaza garment factory collapse in Bangladesh in 2013, which killed more than 1,100 people. In partnership with the Institute for Culture

and Society at Western Sydney University and the Cosmopolitan Civil Societies Research Centre at UTS, we hosted a conference and seminar to coincide with the exhibition. These public forums drew together academics and leading activists to discuss the serious social issues that surround global garment production.

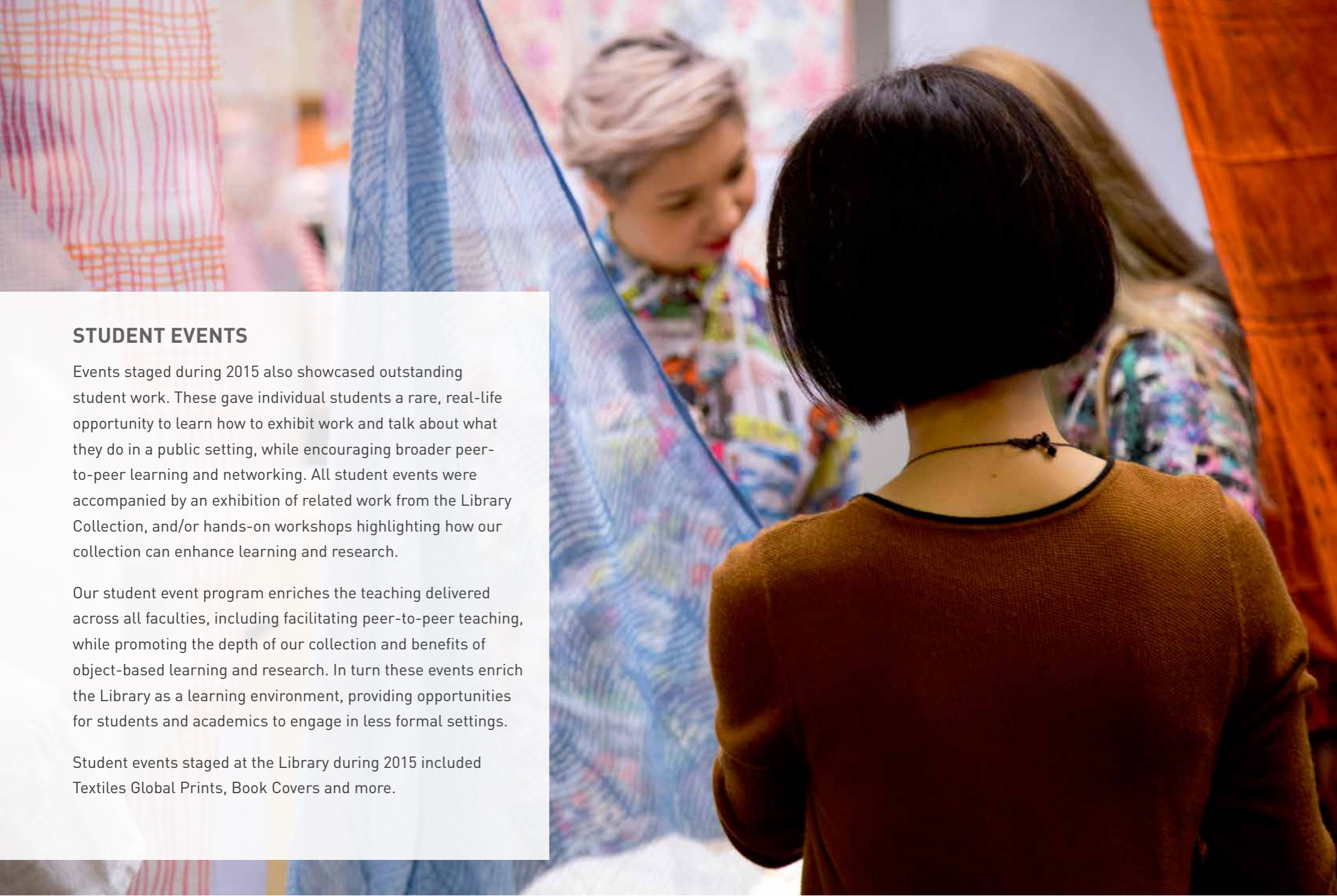


Other events included the annual Green Week Debate, which explored the topic 'Urban farming and green roofs are just eco-bling'. This lively verbal contest between the UTS Debating Society and academic staff from the Faculty of Design, Architecture and Building highlighted the latest research undertaken at UTS in sustainable architecture and the built environment.

'Freedom from Slavery', a talk by Jennifer Burn, Director of Anti-Slavery Australia and UTS Law academic, opened our eyes to modern-day slavery and human trafficking in Australia, and the important research

and practice undertaken by UTS law academics.

The UTS City Campus Master Plan aims to 'strengthen the University's capacity for cutting-edge research, and give our partners in industry, government and the community access to world-class resources within Sydney's burgeoning education, digital and creative hub', as explained by Professor Attila Brungs, UTS Vice-Chancellor. At the Library, our ongoing program of community events helps to fulfil that vision, building tangible links between UTS and the world at large.



STUDENT EVENTS

Events staged during 2015 also showcased outstanding student work. These gave individual students a rare, real-life opportunity to learn how to exhibit work and talk about what they do in a public setting, while encouraging broader peer-to-peer learning and networking. All student events were accompanied by an exhibition of related work from the Library Collection, and/or hands-on workshops highlighting how our collection can enhance learning and research.

Our student event program enriches the teaching delivered across all faculties, including facilitating peer-to-peer teaching, while promoting the depth of our collection and benefits of object-based learning and research. In turn these events enrich the Library as a learning environment, providing opportunities for students and academics to engage in less formal settings.

Student events staged at the Library during 2015 included Textiles Global Prints, Book Covers and more.



PARTNERSHIP ACTIVITIES

Collaborations with other support units at UTS enhance services to students, researchers and staff across all faculties. During 2015, these included delivering training programs with HELPS, Careers and the Graduate Research School; hosting Library information stalls at University-wide events such as Clubs Day and Orientation Week; hosting clinics and workshops by HELPS and Careers; and providing information and digital literacy training with pathway provider UTS:INSEARCH.

A number of events were developed in partnership with UTS faculties, schools and programs, including UTS BUiLD, the Equity and Diversity Unit and UTS Green (Institute for Sustainable Futures), and with student and staff groups such as Amnesty UTS, Anti-Slavery Australia and more.

2015 ARTIST-IN-RESIDENCE

Our Artist-in-Residence program draws creative talent and expertise into the heart of Library operations, inspiring playfulness in our work, our staff, our visitors and

our culture. It promotes curiosity and encourages innovation. It informs and echoes our efforts to create the Future Library.



Leading Australian book designer and UTS academic Dr Zoë Sadokierski undertook our latest residency, inviting Library-goers to consider the nature of the book and its evolution in this digital age. In a world-first, Zoë also designed and produced a book live during the 2015 Sydney Writers' Festival. Research and work completed during Zoë's inspirational residency has influenced the UTS ePRESS publishing model, guiding the Library's own experiments with multimedia and print-on-demand publishing.



A FUTURE-FOCUSED TEAM

Delivering the many achievements described in this review would be impossible without a dynamic and dedicated team of Library staff. We work hard at being international leaders in the library field, as individuals and as an institution.

Jane van Balen co-authored with UTS academics a peer-reviewed article on establishing an Indigenous graduate attribute within the Faculty of Health. 'REM: A collaborative framework for building Indigenous cultural competence' was published in the *Journal of Transcultural Nursing*.

Jennifer Crosbie, Kimberley Williams and Helen Chan presented 'The Library as Shapeshifter: The new rules of engagement' at the ALIA Information Online conference in Sydney. This Australian Library and Information Association event is the premier forum for information professionals in Australia.

Staff took part in a host of training and development opportunities, reflecting the depth and breadth of services delivered at the Library. These included attending the He Manawa Whenua Indigenous Research Conference in Hamilton, New Zealand; the American Association of College & Research Libraries Conference in Portland, the United States; the Digital Humanities conference at the University of Western Sydney; the ALIA Information Online conference in Sydney; and other premier national and international forums for information professionals.

Training throughout the year covered customer service (attended by all frontline staff), resilience (helping staff develop the skills needed to thrive in a fast-changing environment) and manual handling (a vital part of our commitment to being a safe work environment). Staff also took part in the University-wide Happy Body at Work Program.



Special mention goes to Joshua Vawdrey and Sharlene Scobie, who received CAP Commendations from the Career and Professional Development Awards Committee. These awards recognise Joshua's and Sharlene's contribution to the successful technical implementation of our one-year-old Library Retrieval System.

During 2015, UTS Library connected people, knowledge, technology and culture more creatively than ever. Future Library plans were also refreshed to better serve the ever-evolving needs of students and staff. A bright new year is already in full swing.

