

The Year Ahead

The year ahead promises to be an exciting and busy time for the library service. We are introducing important new services and working to keep the Saltire Centre at the cutting edge of library provision.

There will be some major changes to the layout of the library on levels 0 and 1. Our main entrance will move to level 0 and the ramp to our current entrance will be removed. In concert with this we will relocate the library desk down to level 0, providing a welcoming and highly visible access point to library services. Further entrances will be created from the new Campus Life and restaurant areas of the George Moore building giving easy access to the library. The mezzanine space, and former entrance on level 1 will house additional group study areas and will be the place to meet with our Academic Librarians for drop ins and appointments. We will also be reviewing our upper floors to ensure that there is an appropriate balance in provision for group and individual study and that our layout and furniture supports this.

Another exciting development is the creation of our Archives Centre on level 0 which will house all of GCU's Archives and Special Collections in a single location and offer researchers a purpose built reading room in which to study and explore the wealth of archival material we hold.

We are replacing all of our self-service book issue and return equipment and introducing two new services. Library users will be able to borrow and return many items in a single quick and easy transaction and we will offer card and cash payment at our terminals so that users no longer need to queue at the library desk. We are also investing in a book drop unit which will allow 24/7 return of library items all year round.

Our library assistants are being equipped with tablets to allow them to assist library users to access resources, offering help wherever our users choose to work in the library.

This year we will also be introducing a new educational resources repository edShare@GCU. This will be the place to store and share the digital learning and teaching objects created by GCU staff and will allow such resources to be easily embedded into GCU Learn, the GCU website or MOOCs.

Robert Ruthven, Director of Library Services



University for the Common Good

The Library Annual Report 2014/15



University for the Common Good

The Library

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The Year in Statistics

In comparison to 2013/14



Footfall

1,320,072 - Up 50%



Ejournal article downloads

1,612,113 Up 4%



Ebook chapter downloads

2,671,295 - Up 95%



New books (including access to ebooks)

449,164



Research Repository downloads

15,857



GCU PhD downloads from EThOS

710



Teaching and Support Sessions

2750 - Up 37%



Archive productions

7334



NSS score

90% satisfaction with Library resources and services
Up 1%

Support and Teaching

- Now you see us: to increase the visibility of our support the academic librarians have moved their drop-in/appointment space to the seminar room on level 2 our busiest floor and where most undergraduates like to work. <http://www.gcu.ac.uk/library/subjecthelp/contactyourlibrarian/>
- A helping hand: in addition to the year round classes, workshops and 1-2-1 research support for staff and students (at all levels); the academic librarians welcomed and facilitated classes for Associate Students, Direct Entrants, Advanced Higher Hub pupils and S6 pupils in Glasgow and Shetland. <http://www.gcu.ac.uk/library/servicesforstaff/informationliteracy/informationliteracytraining/>
- Cite it right: we've created a comprehensive guide to using Harvard based on the current British Standard available on our website and as a PDF. The partner guide for Numeric referencing is on the way. Watch this space. <http://www.gcu.ac.uk/library/subjecthelp/referencing/>

Library Collections

Since October 2014 and through the SHEDL (Scottish Higher Education Digital Library) consortium we now have access to 30,000 high quality ebook and monograph collections from major academic publishers, covering a wide range of subjects, and including the most recent editions reflecting current research:

- Elsevier
- Oxford University Press
- Palgrave
- Sage
- Wiley

All titles are listed in our library catalogue and searchable through our Discover service, and provide:

- Flexible, rights-free access
- Unlimited user access - so no one is ever locked out
- The ability to add notes, search inside and export to citation software

The initial two year contract provides access to all universities across Scotland, with an average cost of £1.15 per book, per year.

Achievements 2014/15

- Move away from Athens authentication to domain username and password, streamlining user access to all our eresources
- Website re-structure, re-design, and re-launch
- Upgrade of our Discover service – allowing a unified search of most of our print & electronic resources - books, journal articles and databases
- Introduction of a new streamlined fines system – encouraging our students to return high demand texts in a more timely fashion without incurring heavy fines
- Installation of two Search Tables on level 1 and 4 with two more tables due to be delivered for the new academic year. These digital tables allow instant and attractive touch screen access to information about the library services and resources
- Introduction of self-service holds
- Move of the Library desk from level 0 to the Saltire level 1 entrance improving our visibility during the Heart of Campus project
- Developing our new educational resources repository edShare@GCU
- Establishing monthly lunch-time **Resource Bites** sessions for academics and students, promoting our valuable portfolio of resources

Archives and Special Collections

- Collections consolidated in a single location in preparation for the creation of our Archives Centre
- High profile international interest in our Scottish Anti-Apartheid Movement collection
- Establishing key contacts and developing research resources to support cultural and creative industries
- Sector leading practice in introducing first year undergraduates to social work primary sources
- Revised volunteer policy including innovative use of depositors as volunteers to harvest their unique knowledge of collections
- Cataloguing the Social Enterprise Collection Scotland as part the Common Health Research Programme (Yunus Centre)

The Common Good

- Assisted in developing Glasgow Life's vision for Public Library services in Glasgow
- Contributed to the development of Ambition and Opportunity the Strategy for Public Libraries in Scotland 2015-2020
- Supported community heritage through visits and seminars
- Facilitated research within the broad social justice arena via our various collections held in Archives & Special Collections



Preserving the past to inform the future