

The University Library

SciTech Update

News and resource spotlights for the Faculties of Technology and Science

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February 2012

Students Said, We Did

Last year's NSS survey produced a variety of responses from students regarding the Library which we've taken note of.

We're running a campaign to raise awareness of what we've done in response to comments which we also hope will encourage engagement with this year's survey.

Look out for the posters around the Library or follow our Twitter stream or Facebook page.

You might not be aware of some of these developments or you might like to highlight them to students in any mentions of this year's NSS. Though we're very aware that you're not allowed to encourage students to fill in the survey 'positively'!

More 24/7 opening

We opened 24/7 through January as a one off and will do so again at Easter which will become a regular event.

Catalogue is hard to use

We've introduced new software (a major update to the Talis system we use) which makes it easier to search and to refine large search result sets.

Group Study Room booking issues

We've now made it possible to both book online and book at the door of each study room. PIN numbers allow any of the group who have booked to access the room and the system gives greater flexibility in available booking times. Students can book here: http://bit.ly/yqZCM4

Could you do something improve behaviour?

We've increased the number of security patrols throughout the day.

Could the coffee shop be open longer?

We've increased the opening hours of the coffee shop at the Library entrance and up in 3rd Space.

Outside of the NSS survey, we've also created a new Open Access area where the photocopiers used to be with 13 PCs. The photocopiers are now spread around the Library to be nearer the stock being copied. Together with IS we've put in 40 netbook lockers to replace our aging laptops for use around the Library.

Books 24/7 trial

We have access to a new ebook database for a trial period of one month. You can find it at:

http://library.books24x7.com

We have been granted access to the following three 'collections':

- IT Pro
- Engineering Pro
- Business Pro

This should work via IP address automatically on Campus, to access off campus please use Web Proxy

(see http://www.port.ac.uk/library/helpyourself/gettingstarted/ webproxy)

Please make use of it in the coming weeks and let us know what you think which will then feed purchasing decisions. Comments/criticism Timothy to Collinson timothy.collinson@port.ac.uk. If you want blurbs or reviews in PDF format or an Excel list of all titles, please get in touch as well.

The cost isn't cheap, although there's good content in there which could easily make it worth it, particularly given the success of eBrary for example. One 'collection' costs around £15,000, two would be £22,000, three £28,000 etc.

Faculty Publications?

Do you have any locally produced publication databases in your Faculty?

If you do, Andy Barrow is looking to see if they could usefully be moved into Parade (the Institutional Repository). Please get in touch with him if you know about one, preferably with details of what the underlying software involved is. E.g. Word, Excel, ProCite, EndNote, Oracle etc?

Shelve itl

A recent mapping exercise in the Library has revealed that we have 16km or 10 miles of shelving!

No wonder our student shelvers keep themselves fit.

