

## The "ILL" effects of asbestos removal works...



### ...and how you can help overcome them

The majority of our Inter-Library Loans are usually supplied by the British Library from their Document Supply Centre in Boston Spa. However, the recent discovery of asbestos in their aging buildings has

necessitated a program of removal works, resulting in parts of the collection becoming temporarily inaccessible.

The BL currently estimates that around 30% of its collection is affected. However, we are experiencing significant numbers of requests being temporarily declined, with recommended reapplication dates reaching well into 2012. Wherever possible we are doing our best to source the material from other libraries – however, this is a far more labour intensive and time-consuming process than our normal request method.

Under these circumstances, providing complete references for the articles and books you would like us to locate would significantly reduce the time taken to apply for these on your behalf.

We cannot locate or make applications to holding libraries without complete bibliographic information including volume, issue, year of publication and page numbers for articles, and ISBN or ISSN numbers wherever possible. We are currently spending a great deal of time looking up this kind of information, especially for requests submitted in Vancouver format, where we also have to identify full title details. The time spent on this extra work slows down our speed of applications, and can generate a delay in both applying for and receiving material.

We would therefore be very grateful if requesters could include full titles, and as much other information as possible, on ILL requests during this time. This will enable us to continue to provide a timely and efficient service to all our users.

### E-book survey now a print book chapter

Timothy Collinson and Anne Worden, would like to thank all the humanities and computing students who took part in an e-book survey a couple of years ago. Our thanks also to the members of staff who let us

take the first few minutes of a lecture to administer the survey.

You may recall that some results of this survey won a "Judges' Choice" award for a poster presented at Umbrella 2009. Now, a full write up of just why e-books are so popular at the University, and how students are using them, has been published in *E-books in libraries: a practical guide* edited by Kate Price and Virginia Havergal. One chapter from the book and the contents page are available here:

<http://www.facetpublishing.co.uk/title.php?id=572-8>

A copy has been ordered for the Library shelves.

The book also contains Anne and Timothy's top tips for e-book usage (academics should include library led information literacy as early as possible into student courses) as well as possible future directions to look out for.

### New research field in AI

Dr Alexander Gegov, Reader in Computational Intelligence in the School of Computing has recently initiated a new research field in Artificial Intelligence – Fuzzy Networks. The latter not only complements fuzzy logic as a powerful theory for dealing with some attributes of complex systems such as possibilistic uncertainty and non-linearity but also extends the numerous applications of this theory in the context of fuzzy systems. In particular, fuzzy networks can deal with other attributes of complex systems such as modular structure and interactions. This new field is introduced by Dr Gegov in a research monograph entitled *Fuzzy Networks for Complex Systems* and recently published by Springer – a leading international academic publisher. The monograph describes the basic theoretical concepts of fuzzy networks and their application for some case studies. More details about the monograph can be found at:

<http://www.springer.com/engineering/mathematical/book/978-3-642-15599-4>

and there are, of course, copies available in the Library at 006.32/GEG

