

24/7 opening trial



The Library's trial of 24 hour opening is continuing and will finish on Friday, 3rd June. We've been looking at the statistics

collected and although these aren't complete yet, it's been good to get an idea of usage and hear feedback from students. Look out for a full report later, but in the meantime here are just a few figures or responses from the 10th May—26th May.

From the 460 odd survey forms we've had returned:

95% think it's a great idea, 3% are "not bothered" and 1.5% thought it a bad idea.

24% said they were there because of an essay, 21% said an exam had brought them, 19% an exam *and* an essay, 4% had come for their dissertation—but 5% had come for essay *and* dissertation and 3.5% for an exam and dissertation. One respondent reported they were there after midnight for "leisure reading"!

14% of students were from the Technology Faculty

Civil Engineering=16 people, ECE=15, MDE=15, Maths=7, Computing=6, and three self-reporting as "Engineering".

13.5% were from the Science Faculty

Pharm and Biomed=24 people, Sport Sci & SEES 8 people each, Biology=5, Geography=5, Pharmacy=5, Geology=2, Dental Academy=2 and one self-reporting as "Science".

PBS came top here with 17%, however 29% didn't report a department.

IEEE Upgrade

As from today, June 1st, IEEE is being improved in several ways, the two most interesting are:

VDE Verlag conference proceedings are being added to the subscription. VDE Verlag are one of the largest scientific and technical associations in Europe and this change will include 3,100 VDE conference papers from 20+ annual conference titles, with 1,000 new articles being added every year.

Secondly, you'll be able to sort by 'most cited' and see the article's citation count in the article metadata. This new feature should enable you to find articles of high impact more quickly.

In this two week period there have been 381 positive comments ranging from "the best thing the uni has done since I came" to "work better and concentrate more in a working environment rather than at home". (We'll hasten past the comment that saw being able to order Dominoes pizzas as a plus! This *is* against Library regulations.)

246 comments in the same period were negative and ranged from issues about noise levels in the night, through the issue desk not being open all night, to concerns about security. One Year 2 student felt "the money would be more usefully spent elsewhere". In all, a wide range of opinion and lots of food for thought. No doubt discussions about the trial will continue—watch this space!



British Standards Online renewed

As per the decision taken at the last Library Committee meeting British Standards Online has been renewed. The new JISC deal is a three year deal though we can cancel at each anniversary date as long as we provide 90 days notice (this is more than usual). The deal runs from 1st June each year till 31st May and expires in 2014.

Users should note that there has been a tightening of their definition of 'commercial use'.

From the Licence agreement:

"Commercial Use" means use of the Licensed Work for the purpose of university business processes (including but not limited to Health & Safety, Estate Management) or monetary reward (including but not limited to knowledge transfer partnerships) - whether by or for the Sub-Licensee, an Authorised Institution or an Authorised User - by means of the sale, resale, loan, transfer, hire or other form of exploitation of the Licensed Work. For the avoidance of doubt, neither the recovery of direct cost by the Sub-Licensee from Authorised Users, nor use by the Sub-Licensee or Authorised Users of the Licensed Work in the course of research funded by a commercial organisation is deemed to constitute Commercial Use.

If you are concerned about what you can and can't do with regard to 'commercial use', please get in touch.