Jena where every student workstation is connected to the University network. There are many individual study carrels and several group study rooms, both very popular with the students. An efficient book I was very impressed with facilities in the new University Library in...
At the start of this academic year we installed a new version of the database endNote that links directly to the Library's bibliographic databases to electronic journals. In fact, you may have already noticed and used this software. The software uses a technology called ‘OpenURL linking’, which has the ability to generate information from an article citation, check our access to it and then ultimately link directly to the full text of the article, if available.

In a nutshell, when you search a bibliographic database, [databases] which contain article references but don't contain the full text of the articles, [e.g. Medline, Geobase, ASSIA] you may notice a ‘Locate Full Text’ button. In some databases this button is located within the search results screen; in others it is located within the article details screen.

Clicking on this button searches the University’s list of available full text journals, identifying if you are entitled to access the full text of the article in electronic form. It then opens another browser window and displays the results of the search in that window.

At the top part of the screen, basic bibliographic details of the article you have searched for are displayed, below which an area where you will see if any electronic full text has been located.

If electronic full text has been located ‘Dates of Coverage’ will show the date range for which we have access to electronic copies of the journal. ‘Links to Content’ displays links that will take you directly to the article, or if this is not available to the journal, you will need to note the volume, issue and page number to navigate to the full text within the journal. The ‘Database’ link will take you to the home page of the publisher who provides the journal. In some cases this is the only link available. Again, you will need to note the journal title, volume, issue and page number to navigate to the site to find the journal and the article.

If electronic full text is NOT available you can trigger a search of our Library Catalogue to see if the journal is available locally in hard copy. Click on either the ‘Search by Journal Title’ in the Library Catalogue or Search Catalogue by ISSN links. The latter link will initiate a more specific search since it uses the journal’s ISSN (International Standard Serial Number) – unique to a particular journal – rather than the title, which may retrieve more than one matching title.

If no hard copy of the publication is available locally you can generate an interlibrary loan request. The ‘Request an Interlibrary Loan’ link will generate an interlibrary loan request form with the article information already inserted. You must then add your own details and print the form out. Please note that interlibrary loan requests depend on available funds and, in many cases, requests will also require permission from your tutor or supervisor. All undergraduate requests require additional signatures as do some postgraduate requests.

This service is still in its infancy. Many journal providers and databases are still developing the service so the number of databases supporting OpenURL linking will continue to grow. Our current aim is to improve the services we already have and continue to develop ways to make searching more effective.

Problems: If you are experiencing problems with this service please contact the Electronic Resources Helpdesk in the first instance – portia.help@port.ac.uk

Defibilted: we have set up the following databases to be used with the Library Finder software: WebPIRS, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, Web of Knowledge and ELSC – Cardata. More will be added as the databases become OpenURL compliant.

A-Z list of journal titles: this is an additional service that lists all the electronic journals we have full text access.

More information: visit www.port.ac.uk/libraryopenurl

Sylvia Gannon
Library Web & Systems Developer
sylvia.gannon@port.ac.uk / Ext.3980