



National University of Ireland, Galway  
Ollscoil na hÉireann, Gaillimh

# Nuachtlitir na Leabharlainne James Hardiman Library Newsletter

## 5000 and Rising....

Question: What do the following journals have in common?

- *Nutrition Research*
- *The Economist*
- *Journal of Modern History*

Answer: You can read articles from any of them on the Web as a result of the Library's electronic journal subscriptions.

Electronic journals have been around for a while now. Publishers began to experiment with making parts of their journals available on the Web in the mid-1990s. Once even these limited offerings proved popular, it was a natural step to publish the whole text of each journal issue in parallel with the printed copy and to a charge a subscription for the electronic version.

Today the Library offers access to more than 5000 electronic journals, primarily via subscription to aggregator services which provide a single "launchpad" to many titles. A sample of these is displayed in Table 1. Given the relatively short history of electronic journals it is surprising to find that we now have access to more journals in this format than in print. The popularity of electronic journals can be attributed to some key advantages including:

- 24x7 availability
- Access from any location, eg home
- Links to related articles
- Automatic alerting of new journal issues

### Finding that Journal

Journals, print and electronic, are a vital part of the Library's collections and Cataloguing staff are giving special attention to them at present. When looking for journals on the Library Catalogue you will notice some recent enhancements:

- Links to electronic full text where available
- Addition of short records for journals available only in electronic format
- Information on most recent issues received or expected

Service	Journals
Business Source Premier	2700
MD Consult (medicine)	50
JSTOR (multidisciplinary)	160
Science Direct	1200

Table 1

Some of the Library's electronic journal services; full listing at:  
<http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/resources/journals/ejournals.html>

### Uncertain impact of global warming on disease

In recent years a spate of studies and reports have appeared warning that climate change due to global warming will lead to an upsurge of malaria, dengue, yellow fever, and other infectious diseases. But a new report by the US National Academies of Science National Research Council (NRC), published on April 2, challenges such claims arguing that there is "little solid scientific evidence to support such conclusions" and that it is still too soon to say what effects global warming will ultimately have on infectious disease patterns. The National Academies of Science is a research institute established by the US Congress to provide the government with advice on issues concerning science and technology.

The problem, the report says, is that the relationship between climate, human behaviour, and infectious dis-

ease is complex. But during the same period on the other side of the issue in Texas, there were less than 100 cases. The difference, the panel says, can be explained by the fact that people in Texas were more likely to have air-conditioning, screens on their windows, and less likely to spend the day at home. These factors make it less likely that they would be bitten by mosquitoes and infected.



More investigation is needed

be needed to address health problems caused by climate change.

But Jonathan Pata, director of the Program on the Health Effects of Global Environmental Change at Johns Hopkins University (Baltimore, MD, USA) thinks that the NRC panel's findings are not that different from the findings of reports that have been more supportive of research that suggests climate change is posing a threat to health around the world. These studies all concede that many factors play a role in health and that "weather is not everything". Pata says, "The time may differ but the I see the key findings of these reports to be the same."

Indeed, while the NRC panel was sceptical of the predictions being made about the effects climate change will have on health, the panel did say that the potential for harm

Part of an article from Science Direct

Electronic journals have established themselves quickly and their future looks bright. Some necessary future developments include better coverage of the humanities, longer retrospective coverage (many journals are only available from the mid-1990s) and improved affordability. On the last point, the Library is highly active in negotiating reduced prices as part of a consortium with other Irish libraries. A notable example is the Science Direct service for which a deal was negotiated with Elsevier.

### Signing the Way

The Library has recently upgraded its signage. The new signs are in evidence at the entrance and on the Ground, First and Second floors. You will notice a mixture of signs in terms of size and positioning, but all have the same purpose - to help you find what you want quickly.

All signs use the NUI, Galway colour scheme. A particular feature is the use of a tall "totem" sign close to the main entrance on each floor to point you towards the main facilities. This is supplemented by other directional signs towards or, in some cases, above the relevant area.

Information  
Centre  
Ionad Faisnéise





## Focal ón Leabharlannaí

Welcome back to students and staff and, as we commence a new academic year, a very special welcome to students new to NUI, Galway, and particularly to those from overseas. We look forward to introducing you to the physical and indeed virtual Library during Orientation Week, 23-27 September. Welcome also to new members of academic staff; information librarians will be contacting you in the coming weeks.

A very positive addition this year is a new suite of 20 PCs on Floor 2, with very special thanks to Computer Services who are managing this facility on behalf of the Library. They have pulled out all the stops to have it up and running for the start of term. To help you find your way, we hope you like the new signing and guiding throughout the Library. Our collections continue to grow – space or lack is worrying. However, a real growth area that is independent of space is our electronic journals. We now subscribe to more than 5000 full-text electronic titles covering all disciplines. Finally, we are still working on improving our environment. Help us to recycle by using the bags and bins provided and please take the chewing gum home.

Le gach rath ar bhúr soothair don bhliain nua.

**Marie Reddan**  
Librarian



## New Computer Suite

Floor 2 is home to a new group of 20 computers available to any member of the university who has an account with Computer Services. The primary aim of this facility is improved access to resources such as electronic journals and exam papers. Each workstation offers generous space for use of printed books and journals from which you may want to take notes using word processing software. Besides Internet access facilities include MS Office, file storage, scanning and printing. Two printers are located adjacent to the PCs and you can purchase printer credit from the print kiosk on the Ground Floor.

A key feature in delivering this service is the collaboration between the Library and Computer Services. All PCs operate in the same way as almost 1000 computers already installed around the campus by Computer Services who will provide technical support for the Library facility.



## '... In their element ...': 25 Years of the Galway Arts Festival

The Library recently held an exhibition with the above title to mark the 25th anniversary of the Galway Arts Festival. It contained a selection of the material from the Galway Arts Festival Archive presented to the University and the Library by the Board of the Festival. The material charts the development of the Festival over 25 years, and includes many photographs, posters, and programmes illustrating its growth from a small but vibrant local festival to a premier international arts event. The exhibition attracted large numbers to the Library during this year's Festival. It is fitting that the University should have these links with the Festival since it began as an alliance between the Galway Arts Society and UCG Arts Society. Over the years the University has provided venues for many festival events.





# Recent Appointments

Welcome to Laurie Greenfield and Niamh Walsh who have joined us recently and congratulations to Hugo Kelly who has transferred from our existing staff.



Laurie was Campus Librarian at the Learning Resource Centre at Trent Park, Middlesex University, prior to becoming Assistant Librarian, Reader Services.

Tel. 3353  
email  
laurie@sulacco.library.nuigalway.ie



Niamh, a graduate of NUI, Galway, joined us in July from the School of Celtic Studies Library at the Dublin Institute for Advanced Studies. She will provide information support for the Faculties of Arts and Celtic Studies.

Tel. 2095  
email niamhwalsh@nuigalway.ie



Hugo joined from Dublin City University in April 2000 as Collection Management Librarian and now takes up the post of Law Librarian.

Tel. 3359  
email hugo.kelly@nuigalway.ie

## The James Hardiman Library - A User's Perspective

When John Cox asked me to write 400 words on the Library from a user's perspective, I immediately said yes. John is a pal, and 'yes' is the answer for friends. Then I thought about it. So many of the people who work in the Library have, over the years, become my friends that writing a neutral 'objective' assessment of the Library is out of the question.

And yet this impression of the exceptional friendliness of the James Hardiman Library is also exactly the point. Other members of staff to whom I have spoken about the Library feel the same. In terms of teaching and research in the University, there could not be a more pleasant service. Energy is never spared in tracking down books or journals that have gone astray, or in helping find a reference or source of information. In my experience, suggestions, proposals - even complaints (the sometimes dire state of the toilets!) - have always been taken seriously, acted upon and the necessary changes instituted.

The one area that could be improved in the Library is the physical structure of the building itself. What is required - I believe urgently - is a new building whose architecture and interior design would reflect the extent to which the Library is the University's most important physical and intellectual resource. The Library is the University's core and this should be suggested boldly in a building whose exterior and interior design shows imagination, permanence and flair. The exceptional helpfulness and energy of the Library staff must be housed in a building that that is physically complementary and supportive.

In terms of my daily use of the Library for teaching and research, one of the most impressive developments over the past ten years is the growth in newspaper microfilm holdings. No longer is it necessary (as it once was in the early 1990s) to make a train trip to Dublin simply to check out a newspaper reference. The presence of additional microfilm reader-printers in the Infomedia Room has added to this accessibility, and has made it possible to have students themselves conduct research using primary sources. The appointment of an archivist, and the development and acquisition of archives within Special Collections, is another welcome addition to the research profile of the Library. In the Taibhdhearc and O'Malley/Lyric Theatre archives (to name just two areas in which I have an interest) the University now has an outstanding primary resource. This is already attracting postgraduates and researchers and promises to be a rich source for future scholarship. Once again, credit needs to be given to the many individuals in the Library who run these services on a daily basis, and to the imagination and energy of the Library management in initiating and supporting these important changes. Well done the Library!



Dr. Lionel Pilkington, English Dept.



## New Sources

The following services are all accessible via the Database List on the Library home page at <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie>

TITLE	DESCRIPTION
<b>Business Source Premier</b>	Full text of over 2,800 scholarly business journals covering management, economics, finance, accounting, international business. Updating is daily and coverage includes <i>Harvard Business Review</i> (1922-).
<b>IEEE All-Society Periodicals Package (ASPP)</b>	Includes 112 online journals, transactions and magazines from the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers. The backfile is from 1998 and more than 52000 articles are available. Weekly updates.
<b>Hein-On-Line</b>	An ongoing project, currently offering backruns of 250 legal journals from their inception. Titles include the <i>Cornell Law Review</i> (1915-2001)
<b>JSTOR General Science Collection</b>	Online access to full backruns of general science journals, some going back to the 1600s.
<b>JSTOR Ecology and Botany Collection</b>	Backruns of over 30 journals, some from the 19th century to present. Titles include the <i>American Journal of Botany</i> (1914-1996) and <i>Evolution</i> (1947-1998).

## Battle of the Books

In his book, *King's Inns and the Battle of the Books 1972*, Colum Kenny details a major controversy of the time. It involved many of the leading figures and institutions of the time including NUI, Galway (then UCG).

In 1972, due to financial pressures, King's Inns decided to sell thousands of non-law books at auction in Sotheby's. Not surprisingly news of the proposed sale sparked much criticism as academics, librarians, and other interested parties complained bitterly about 'the random dispersal of an irreplaceable collection'. Prof. T. P. O'Neill, of our History Department and Christy Townley, the University Librarian, actively campaigned against the sale. Questions were asked in the Dáil, letters sent to *The Irish Times* and attempts made to involve the Government of the day in a plan to save the books. Alas, all of this proved to be fruitless. In 1972 thousands of literary, scientific and religious books as well as many rare maps went under the hammer in London. A national treasure was lost to private collectors outside Ireland.

A few books, however, were saved. A campaign fund had been started by An Taisce and prominent figures such as Charles Haughey offered donations. This University donated £1200 and Colum Kenny notes that: "University College Galway contributed more than twice as much as any other donor to the funds used by An Taisce to buy books in London."

Particular emphasis was placed on saving an extremely rare copy of the *Confessions of St Augustine*. This was printed in Strasbourg in 1470 and is one of 34 held in libraries worldwide. It was sold to An Taisce at a reduced price. In recognition of the University's assistance to the fund, and also as a gift to the then new Library, this was presented with the other 46 purchases to the University in 1973 where they currently reside. It was a small victory in what ultimately was a sad chapter in Irish cultural affairs.

Hugo Kelly, Law Librarian

## Opening Hours

### MAIN LIBRARY

Sept 9 - Sept 13	Monday - Friday	09.00-17.30
Sept 16 - Nov 9	Monday - Friday	09.00-22.00
	Saturday	09.00-13.00
Nov 11 - Dec 19	Monday - Friday	09.00-23.00*
	Saturday	09.00-17.00
	Sunday	13.00-18.00
Dec 20	Friday	09.00-17.30

\*22.00 -23.00 will not apply Friday

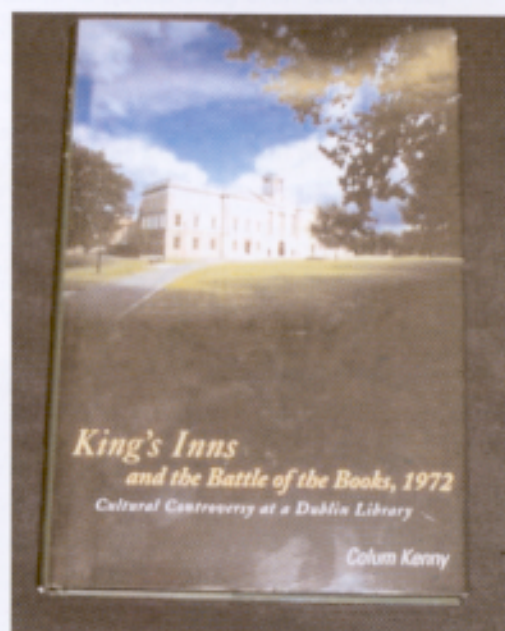
### MEDICAL LIBRARY

Sept 9 - Sept 13	Monday - Friday	09.15-17.30
Sept 16 - Dec 19	Monday - Friday	09.15-22.00
	Saturday	09.00-13.00
Dec 20	Friday	09.15-17.30

### NURSING LIBRARY

Sept 9 - Sept 13	Monday-Friday	09.00-17.00
Sept.16 - Dec 19	Monday -Friday	09.00-20.00
	Saturday	09.00-13.00
Dec 20	Friday	09.00-17.00

All Libraries closed  
September 14, October 28, 2002



Published by James Hardiman Library, National University of Ireland, Galway.

Tel.: +353 91 524411 ext 2540. Fax: +353 91 522394. Email: [library@nuigalway.ie](mailto:library@nuigalway.ie). Web: <http://www.library.nuigalway.ie/>  
Issue editors: John Cox, Hugo Kelly. Illustrations: John Costello.