EDINBURGH UNIVERSITY LIBRARY COMMITTEE

There will be a meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, 5th December 2012 at 2pm, in Room 1.09, Main Library, George Square.

Papers will be lodged on the Library Committee webpage at http://www.libcttee.isg.ed.ac.uk/ on Monday, 3rd December.

John Scally - Director of Library and Collections

AGENDA

1 Welcome and Apologies for Absence
2 Nominations to Library Committee
3 Convenor and Director or Library and Collections Business

For Discussion

4 Collections Policy: Key Policy Statements
5 Implementing RCUK Policy on Open Access

Reports

6 Main Library Opening Hours
7 Collections Review Update (New Acquisition Methods)
8 MLRP Report
9 Acquisition Highlights
10 Reports: Colleges and EUSA – for noting

Minutes and Matters Arising

11 Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th October, 2012
12 Matters Arising
13 Any Other Business
14 Date of Next Meeting: Wednesday, 10th April 2013 at 2pm
   (Room 1.07, Main Library, George Square)

(Please note that the meeting previously scheduled for Wednesday, 6th February 2013 is cancelled.)
Collections Policy: Key Policy Statements

Brief description of the paper
This paper presents the key Collections Policy statements, followed by explanatory notes around service and ethos. One agreed, these statements will provide the high-level policy upon which decisions are taken.

Action requested
For discussion and approval.

Resource implications
None.

Risk Assessment
There is no risk assessment included in this report.

Equality and Diversity
Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information
Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper
Laura Macpherson
Library General Collections & Services Manager
December 2012
Library Collections Policy - Key Policy Statements (KPS) v26.11.12

[Format: Key Policy Statement, followed by explanatory note around service and ethos]

1. The Library will provide a dynamic, relevant and evolving collection of resources to support teaching and research in the University and, where possible, in the wider community. This will be supported by established as well as new methods of acquisition.
   - An established model could include academic purchase recommendations; new methods could include patron driven acquisition.
   - This is aimed at the General Collections, but also Heritage and Special Collections.

2. The most heavily used print General Collections are openly accessible and located where they can best be utilised by the greatest concentration of users.
   - Items in store will have demonstrated lower usage than the centrally located collections.
   - Stored items remain available through appropriately managed request and delivery services.
   - Items may also be transferred across the Main and Site Libraries on behalf of users. Material tends to be located on the campus where specific subjects are taught (for example, the veterinary collections are predominantly held within the Library at the Easter Bush campus).

3. The Library follows an e-only model in relation to acquisition and retention of journals, taking into account financial feasibility, content, and long-term access.
   - This Policy has been active since the 2009 Revision of the Library Collections Policy (2005), which can be viewed here: [http://www.ed.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.39985!/fileManager/CPD-light-touch-revision-2009-v2.pdf](http://www.ed.ac.uk/polopoly_fs/1.39985!/fileManager/CPD-light-touch-revision-2009-v2.pdf).

4. The Library follows an e-preference model in relation to acquisition and retention of books, taking into account financial feasibility, access arrangements, learning needs and preservation.
   - The Library will invest in and support initiatives to improve access arrangements and pricing of e-books.
   - For disciplines for which print copies are essential for teaching and/or research, both print and electronic books may be acquired. The decision will normally lie with the Liaison Librarian representing the discipline concerned.

5. Heritage and Special Collections are acquired according to existing collection strengths and research and teaching priorities.
   - Material is normally purchased using endowments, support from Friends organisations, the Schools and Colleges, and through external fundraising.


6. The Library collects and preserves the intellectual output of the University in manuscript, print and electronic format, through services such as the Edinburgh Research Archive (ERA), the Current Research Information System (PURE), and the University Archives.

Policies relating to ERA and PURE can be found here: [http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/research-support/publish-research/research-publications/rps-policies](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/research-support/publish-research/research-publications/rps-policies).


7. The Library will collaborate with stakeholders to implement the Research Data Management (RDM) Policy and develop a service for the management and reuse (retention and availability) of University of Edinburgh Research Data, to ensure compliance with Research Councils’ and external funding bodies’ requirements.

The RDM Policy may be viewed here: [http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/about/policies-and-regulations/research-data-policy](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/about/policies-and-regulations/research-data-policy).

8. Donations, or internal transfers (e.g. School collection transfers), of books, manuscripts and archives will be assessed using selection criteria and/or records retention schedules that will be applied before accepting material.

Examples of selection criteria include duplication; availability elsewhere; material condition; and relevance to current teaching or research.

Donors are asked to complete such checking, as guided, before submitting material for consideration.

Donations are subject to the same on-going review process as all other materials, in relation to collections management activities such as transfer, relegation or disposal.

9. Deposits will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances and under agreed conditions.

Deposited collections are not owned by the University of Edinburgh, but are held and serviced on behalf of the owners.

The Library will normally apply a charge for the housing and servicing of deposited collections.
10. No more than one copy of a title (print or electronic) should be added to or retained within the Library system, unless it falls into an exception as listed in the guidelines below.

- The text is being used in current or continuing courses at the University of Edinburgh. In which case, the Library would not purchase or retain more than one copy per group of 20 students on a course.
- Current research needs means more than one copy should be purchased to disperse across different Site Libraries.
- Additional copies have copy specific information when they would normally be part of the Special Collections.
- All multiple copies of items are reviewed as part of a rolling programme of review; considering borrowing history and relevance to current teaching or research.

11. Where we have guaranteed long-term access to electronic journals, the print copy of the same title will be assessed for transfer, relegation or disposal.

- The Library will continue to purchase journal back files when resources are available.
- The Library will continue its membership of the LOCKSS and PORTICO preservation services, and the EDINA membership of CLOCKSS.
- As long as they are available, the Library will endeavour to retain membership of responsible and collaborative preservation and retention programmes, such as the UK Research Reserve (UKRR).

12. There is a rolling programme of transfer, relegation and disposal (using agreed criteria) for Library collections. Within the General Collections, an approximate balance will be sought between acquisition on the one hand, and transfer, relegation and disposal on the other.

- Examples of criteria include those used within the HUB (High Use Books) collection in the Main Library, where materials no longer required for taught courses or no longer demonstrating high borrowing are usually de-duplicated, and transferred into the main Standard Loan collection.
- Disposals are carried out in consultation with appropriate Consultancy/Liaison staff.

13. Access agreements with and proximity to other libraries will be factored into decisions on the acquisition and retention of specialist categories of material.

- For example, the Library no longer routinely acquires maps due to a co-location to the National Library of Scotland’s Map Library.
The University of Edinburgh

Library Committee

5 December 2012

Agendum 5 (Paper B)

Implementing RCUK Policy on Open Access

Brief description of the paper
This paper gives a summary report on the Research Councils UK new policy concerning access to research outputs. This paper outlines the programme to implement this policy, and covers both the pump priming transitional payment, and the first year of the block grant, up until the end of 2013.

Action requested
For information.

Resource implications
See report for full implications, including costings break-down and block grant income.

Risk Assessment
There is no risk assessment included in this report.

Equality and Diversity
Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information
Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper
Stuart Lewis - Head of Digital Library (Library & Collections, Information Services)
John Scally – Director of Library and Collections (Information Services)
December 2012
Implementing RCUK Policy on Open Access

Background
The Research Councils UK (RCUK) have published a new policy concerning access to scholarly research outputs in peer-reviewed journals\(^1\). The policy comes into effect on 1\(^{st}\) April 2013, and states that RCUK “expect authors of research papers to maximise the opportunities to make their results available for free”. This is achieved via one of two routes:

- **The Gold route**: Publish as normal, but with the payment of an Article Processing Charge (APC) directly to the publisher to make the paper freely available to all readers through their normal publishing channel (e.g. publisher website). APC charges typically fall between £1,000 and £2,500, with an average of £1741\(^2\). Papers published this way must be licenced with a Creative Commons By Attribution licence (CC-BY) that allows unhindered access to the paper for any purpose provided that correct attribution is used. CC-BY allows commercial reuse.

- **The Green route**: Publish as normal, but deposit a copy of the final peer-reviewed manuscript into the University’s open access PURE Research Explorer portal. Publishers often allow this, subject to a six or twelve month embargo period. Papers published this way must be licenced with a Creative Commons By Attribution Non Commercial licence (CC-BY-NC) that allow unhindered access to the paper for non-commercial use, provided that correct attribution is used.

\[ \text{It should be noted that the majority of publishers provide RCUK compliant policies, and therefore papers can be published in the same publications as they have traditionally been.} \]

In support of this requirement, the RCUK has provided the university with an initial pump-priming grant of £609,000 to assist in the development of new or revised local policies, new workflows, and systems that will prepare the University to begin compliance with the new policy from 1 April 2013. The pump-priming grant will be followed by annual block grants of £830,000 in 2013/14 and £977,000 in 2014/15 to be used specifically for the payment of APCs for RCUK funded or partially funded peer-reviewed scholarly outputs in journals.

The RCUK is adopting a phased approach towards full compliance over the coming five years. During this period, it is expected that the number of RCUK funded peer reviewed outputs will be published as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2013/14</th>
<th>2014/15</th>
<th>2015/16</th>
<th>2016/17</th>
<th>2017/18</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gold</td>
<td>45%</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green(^3)</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
<td>25%</td>
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</table>

\(^1\) Research Councils UK Policy on Access to Research Outputs
\(^2\) £1741 is the average paid in the biomedical area, calculated using average APC amounts paid for papers funded by the Wellcome Trust
\(^3\) The RCUK state 25% in year 5 – years 1 to 4 are undefined
A Proposed Plan for the University to Address the RCUK Policy on Access to Peer-Reviewed Journal Outputs

This paper outlines a proposed programme to implement this policy, and covers both the pump priming grant, and the first year of the block grant, up until the end of 2013.

Scope

On average the university publishes over 4,000 peer reviewed papers per year, where the first named author is affiliated with the University of Edinburgh. However, the seven research councils comprising RCUK only fund between a quarter and a third of this total number. It is only the proportion funded by the RCUK that are covered by this policy. Other funders will have to develop their own response to the UK Government’s adoption of the Finch Review as its policy on access to scholarly research outputs. This implementation plan assumes 1,300 Edinburgh University scholarly outputs fall under the policy and therefore need to move towards compliance after 1 April 2013.

Block Grant Size

The size of block grant that the university will receive is £830,000 in year one (2013/14), and £977,000 in year two (2014/15). It is important to understand whether this is enough to cover the requirements of the RCUK policy:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>One (2013/14)</th>
<th>Two (2014/15)</th>
</tr>
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</table>
| Block Grant | RCUK grant: £830,000  
20% UoE contribution: £207,500 | RCUK grant: £977,000  
20% UoE contribution: £244,250 |
| Estimated UoE Spend to fulfil RCUK requirements | 1,300 papers @ £1,741: £2,263,300  
45% Gold compliance: £1,018,485  
80% RCUK grant: £814,788  
20% UoE contribution: £203,697 | 1,300 papers @ £1,741 = £2,263,300  
53% Gold compliance: £1,199,549  
80% RCUK grant: £959,639  
20% UoE contribution: £239,909 |

Based on these estimates, the RCUK block grants for both year one and year two are sufficient to cover the 45% and 53% Gold requirements.

Implementation Programme – Pilot (to April 2013)

A draft plan was submitted to the RCUK in October 2012 regarding plans to spend the £609,000 allocation provided to the university. The initial plan was based on an all-Green approach, however an alternative option could be taken with a hybrid Green/Gold approach that introduces an element of spend on APCs.
Programme Plan
The slide on page two outlines that overall programme of activities throughout the pilot phase. It includes the following activities:

- **RCUK**: Policy on Access to Research Outputs
- **Research Policy Group**:
  - Establish an Open Access Governance Group to oversee this and other OA initiatives
  - OA Governance Group to revise existing university publications policy
  - Develop RCUK Gold Fund ‘access criteria’ to describe which papers can be funded by the RCUK fund
- **ERI**: Provide RCUK grant and eligibility information to Information Service Open Access Programme, and to grant holders
- **Information Services**:
  - Employ an Open Access Programme Manager (Grade 7) and Assistant (Grade 5) to lead, advise, monitor, and report on the programme. In addition, these staff will provide advocacy training to college staff.
  - Subscribe to Open Access Membership schemes to lower the cost of publishing with Gold publishers (such as BioMed Central, PLOS ONE).
  - Employ technical developers to work with PURE and the Research Explorer portal to ensure the best use of the Gold and Green information it contains.
- **GaSP and Information Services**: Fund Atira to undertake further development on PURE to ensure that it works effectively and efficiently to collect and present Green and Gold information for open access purposes, and for internal and RCUK reporting requirements.
- **Colleges**: Employ temporary project staff to work with authors to upload existing publications to populate PURE with a back catalogue of the University’s publications.

Implementation Programme – May 2013 onwards
There are different models that could be used for allocating resources from the RCUK block grants to fund Gold APCs. One is to award this on a pro-rata basis as a bonus to all RCUK award holders. Another is to follow the RCUK guidance and create an institutional publication fund. These options will be discussed by the Research Policy Group (and its Open Access Implementation sub-group). However, it seems fairly clear that RCUK expect all Universities in receipt of an APC block grant to hold it in a central publication fund to aid compliance monitoring and reporting back to RCUK. In addition, RCUK intend to publish a list of all scholarly outputs which it funds, including details of the APCs that have been paid, on its website in order to demonstrate to government that it is complying with the Finch Review recommendations.

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4 University of Edinburgh Publication Policy: [http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/about/policies-and-regulations/research-publications](http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/about/policies-and-regulations/research-publications)
Related Issues

Included in the RCUK Policy on the access to research outputs are requirements related to the area of Research Data Management, and to the acknowledgement of funding. Of particular note is:

- Papers must include details of the funding that supported the research, and a statement on how the underlying research materials – such as data, samples or models – can be accessed.

RCUK will now mandate that all authors acknowledge the research councils as the source or part source of the funding for their research. This policy was introduced a few years ago though compliance was uneven. It will now be mandated from 1 April 2013. The RCUK suggest following the guidance from the Research Information Network (RIN) regarding ‘Acknowledgement of funders in journal articles’⁵.

This will require the development and provision of a university data asset register. This intersects with the University’s research data initiative and is included in the programme of work described in the Research Data Management Roadmap⁶.

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Stuart Lewis
Head of Digital Library, Library & Collections, Information Services

John Scally
Director of Library & Collections, Information Services

30th November 2012

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Update on Library Opening Hours

Brief description of the paper
This paper gives brief updates on Summer opening hours 2013, and the Centre for Research Collections trial Saturday morning opening.

Action requested
For information.

Resource implications
Any extension of library opening hours will increase costs.

Risk Assessment
There is no risk assessment included in this report.

Equality and Diversity
Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information
Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper
Barry Croucher
Head of Help Services, IS User Services
December 2012
Update on progress regarding possible extension of Main Library Building Summer Opening Hours

At Library Committee of 10th October, a paper was presented giving students’ views on Summer opening hours.

To summarise, the concerns are: confusing patterns, mainly 5pm Friday closures; June and July opening hours lacking; part-time students needing longer opening at evenings and weekends; students taking exam resits needing longer opening on Saturdays in August; Medical students taking exams needing longer weekend opening at the beginning of September.

IS agreed to review the Summer hours with a view to a possible extension of Main Library building opening hours in order to address these concerns.

The following is under consideration:

1. For the last 2 weeks of June, all of July and the first week of September (8 weeks in total):
   1.1. Increase Friday evening opening by three hours, 8.30am to 8pm (currently 8.30am to 5pm).
   1.2. Increase Saturday opening by four hours, to 10am to 5pm (currently 10am to 1pm).
   1.3. Open Sundays, 12noon to 5pm (currently closed, so increase by 5 hours).

2. For August:
   2.1. Increase Friday opening by three hours, 8.30am to 8pm (currently 8.30am to 5pm)
   2.2. Increase Saturday opening by three hours, 10am to 8pm (currently 10am to 5pm).

Indicative costs comprising utilities, cleaning, Estates Security staff, IS Facilities staff, Library shelving staff are in the process of estimation.

The paper raised one further concern regarding levels of noise: the Main Library Redevelopment Project is due to complete prior to Summer 2013, but free earplugs are available at the IS Helpdesk and signs advertise this service.

Trial Saturday morning opening of the Centre for Research Collections

The trial Saturday morning opening service of the Centre for Research Collections (CRC) commenced on 03/11/12 and is averaging 3 readers and 5 enquiries per morning. To date all readers have been UoE staff or students and most usage has been by students in the supervised CRC reading room. The overall trend of readers and enquiries is showing a steady increase.

Barry Croucher, IS User Services
Collections Review – Update on Pilots in New Methods of Acquisition

Brief description of the paper

This paper presents an update on pilots in new methods of acquisition, and includes brief reports on reducing the cost to the user of inter-library loans, patron driven acquisition (e-books and student requests), and pilot methods using journals and interdisciplinary resources.

Action requested

For information.

Resource implications

See attached.

Risk Assessment

There is no risk assessment included in this report.

Equality and Diversity

Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information

Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper

Elize Rowan – Acquisitions & Metadata Services Manager
Liz Stevenson – E-Resources Manager
3 December 2012
### Collections Review – Update on Pilots in New Methods of Acquisition (3 December 2012)

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<th>Reducing the cost to the user of Interlibrary Loans.</th>
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<td></td>
<td>The pilot service to provide quotas of free interlibrary loans to staff and students has been in place since 1st August 2012. Initial analysis of the first quarter has revealed a modest increase in uptake of the service, and increased undergraduate registration for the service as at the same point last year. More detailed analysis will be available at the end of Q2. Further details of the service are available at: <a href="http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/library-museum-gallery/using-library/borrowing-a-book/ill/ill-pay">http://www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/information-services/services/library-museum-gallery/using-library/borrowing-a-book/ill/ill-pay</a></td>
<td>50K</td>
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<th>Patron driven acquisition – e-books</th>
<th>170k</th>
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<td>The PDA Working Group is undertaking pre-implementation planning, including a review of the three major e-book suppliers in the Scottish academic library e-book procurement framework agreement. The Working Group will establish a suitable model for the pilot (e.g. rental, purchase or a combination of both). Next steps will be selection of the e-book supplier with whom we will partner on the pilot, and identification of relevant content within their aggregated collection to ensure a wide range of academic publishers and subjects. It is anticipated that the pilot will be implemented early in Semester 2, with selected e-books available in the Library catalogue for discovery and access by academic staff and students on a rental and/or purchase basis. A further strand of work will be investigation of separate patron driven plans which are placed directly with selected publishers, rather than with an e-book aggregator. This could provide access to content which publishers do not make available via the intermediary suppliers, and which is delivered with less restrictive digital rights management.</td>
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<th>Patron driven acquisition - student requests</th>
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<td>The PDA Working Group has agreed an approach which will deliver reduced levels of mediation in the Student Book Suggestion service (with the exception of requests for medical texts which will continue be closely scrutinised by relevant Liaison Librarians). A number of changes to the existing online the Student Book Suggestion form have been agreed, and these are being progressed by the Information Systems Team. Approximately 80 student requests have been received since the start of Semester 1, with 86% of those from HSS, and 14% from CS&amp;E. 21% of all requests were from ECA. To date, less than 10% of requests are for titles on course reading lists. The majority have been submitted by post-graduate students, with approximately 35% of requests submitted for PhD studies. More detailed reporting will be made available in Q2, and this will include lists of titles requested/purchased. The Working Group is considering ways in which to market the re-branded service across all three Colleges to ensure visibility, and to encourage uptake. There is significant evidence that in other universities, this type of high profile service has significantly improved student satisfaction with library collections.</td>
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<th>Pilot methods using journals and interdisciplinary resources</th>
<th>120k</th>
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<td></td>
<td>A number of Open Access subscriptions have been funded by this additional budget allocation, including Biomed Central; Faculty of 1000 Biology; Faculty of 1000 Medicine; Nucleic Acids Research; and Public Library of Science. On-demand article purchasing from a range of publishers is also being investigated, and the costs of this type of service will be compared with those of traditional document delivery.</td>
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Elize Rowan – Acquisitions & Metadata Services Manager
Liz Stevenson – E-Resources Manager
3 December 2012
Main Library Redevelopment Project (MLRP) Report

**Brief description of the paper**

This paper gives a brief update on the Main Library Redevelopment Project, including Main Library usage, construction and redevelopment work, and on-going facilities and services issues.

**Action requested**

For information.

**Resource implications**

None

**Risk Assessment**

There is no risk assessment included in this report.

**Equality and Diversity**

Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

**Freedom of Information**

Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

**Originator of the paper**

Lesley Bryson
Main Library Redevelopment Project Coordinator
December 2012
Main Library Redevelopment Project
Update November 2012

Images of the Lower Ground Floor, currently under construction & due to reopen spring 2013.

Main Library Usage

With the year ending July 31\textsuperscript{st}, the overall gatecount figure for 2011/2012 was 1,998,480. This represents a 10.5% increase on 2010/11 and a 98% increase since 2008/2009. We are now in the final phase of the MLRP and the last few remaining study spaces will be put in place on Floor 4 following the move of the temporary staff space to the Lower Ground Floor in spring 2013. As we are reaching capacity in the building we would expect usage figures to begin to level off, following a number of years of significant increase. Early indications for 2012/2013 show that the gatecount is down versus last year but that headcounts continue to remain high.

Lower Ground Floor

Construction work continues on the Lower Ground Floor and following unavoidable delays with asbestos removal the handover date is at present scheduled for end March 2013. Thomson Bethune will once again oversee both collections and staff moves. Initial move management meetings have taken place with team representatives and collections curators. Further meetings have been scheduled for January.

Replacement of Main Library Lifts and Redevelopment of Stairs

As part of Phase 7 of the MLRP all three of the Main Library lifts will be replaced and all three stairs wells fully refurbished. Work in the central, east and west stairs is now complete, with much of the disruptive works carried out during the quieter summer
months. The right hand passenger lift reopened on Friday 1st November, following replacement works, and the evacuation lift was decommissioned on 2nd November. The evacuation lift will be closed for approximately 11 weeks. In accordance with fire regulations, during the closure period of the evacuation lift we are unable to allow users who are unable to self-transfer into an evacuation chair above the ground floor. Alternative access to library services will be provided as appropriate during this time.

There have been no requirements for further restrictions in the building during semester time lift and stair works with two lifts and all stairs remaining open at all times.

**Floor 2 Laptop Clinic**

The Laptop Clinic has now opened on Floor 2 of the Main Library. The new space, to the west side of the floor, provides seating for up to 8 attendees plus 2 staff members. The new location provides a much more visible space and improved user access.

**On-going Facilities and Services Issues**

An annual maintenance contract has now been set up with Boon Edam (provider of our swipe barriers) and extra parts have been ordered to be held on site to allow for quicker repair times. An annual contract has also been set up for maintenance of the water fountains.

Throughout redevelopment work we will keep you up to date with progress and regular construction updates are available on the MLRP website - [www.ed.ac.uk/is/mlrp](http://www.ed.ac.uk/is/mlrp).

If you have any queries, please contact [mlrp@ed.ac.uk](mailto:mlrp@ed.ac.uk).

Lesley Bryson, Main Library Redevelopment Project Coordinator
27 November 2012
The University of Edinburgh
Library Committee
5 December 2012

Agendum 9 (Paper F)
Recent Acquisition Highlights

Brief description of the paper
This paper gives brief descriptions of some of the more recent acquisitions across Library collections.

Action requested
For information.

Resource implications
None

Risk Assessment
There is no risk assessment included in this report.

Equality and Diversity
Does the paper have equality and diversity implications? No

Freedom of Information
Can this paper be included in open business? Yes

Originator of the paper
Arnott Wilson
Head of Special Collections and University Archivist
December 2012
Agendum 9

Recent Acquisition Highlights

A number of outstanding additions have been acquired recently across a range of academic disciplines.

In the Humanities they include e-resources such as: the North China Herald Archive, universally acclaimed as the prime printed source in any language for the history of the foreign presence in China from around 1850 to the 1940s; German Literary Expressionism Online, giving access to 149 journals, yearbooks, collections and anthologies from the early 20th century; the Churchill Archive (one year trial), a digital library of modern international history including more than 800,000 pages of original documents, produced between 1874 and 1965, ranging from Churchill’s personal correspondence to his official exchanges with kings, presidents, politicians, and military leaders; Edward Elgar Law e-Book Collection and the Vogue Archive, containing the entire run of Vogue magazine (US edition) from 1892 to the present day, reproduced in high-resolution colour page images.

In Special Collections William Donald Macdonald’s “Manuscript of a voyage to St. Kilda and other islands” 1850, charts how as a young soldier he travelled across the highlands and islands of Scotland, noting acute observations about the landscapes, customs and people he encountered. Of particular interest is his description of visiting St. Kilda, on which he had the remarkable experience of being present at the Kirk Session when a woman was publicly accused of witchcraft.

Special Collections has also purchased Mohammad ibn Sulayman al-Djuzuli. [Sufi manuscript with plates of Medina and Mecca]. This adds to some significant additions to our oriental manuscripts and is a particularly important and charming item. It is a classic Sufi text on prayer and meditation, written in a fine Nashki script with embellishments in the Persian tradition.

In Science and Engineering the Chinese Science Citation Database (CSCD) provides a citation index to over 1,000 core journals in Chinese science, engineering and medicine from 1989 onwards. Up to now, it contains indexes to over 3 million articles and 17 million citations. The subjects range from mathematics, physics, chemistry, astronomy, geology, biology, agriculture, engineering to medicine, health, and environmental science. The database platform is in Chinese, but it is also searchable in English for many articles with English abstracts. We have been offered free access to this resource by Mr Jianyong (James) Zhang who visited us in 2010. He is the Head of department in the China National Science Library responsible for this database. Our gratis access lasts until December 2015.
The Marine Digimap was bought towards the end of the last financial year for a one-year trial period following requests from the School of Engineering for marine and coastal zone mapping data. Marine Digimap is part of the Edina Digimap suite of online mapping services. The service includes raster marine maps of various scales and detail (derived from Admiralty Charts), which are ideal for back-drop mapping in the UK coastal zone, vector thematic marine data suitable for advanced spatial analysis as well as customised mapping. Users are able to view maps through their web browser, save maps for printing and download the marine map data for use in geographical information systems. Requests for this type of data would be difficult to satisfy from other sources. Usage of the service is anticipated from the School of Engineering, the School of GeoSciences and the School of History, Classics and Archaeology (Marine Archaeology).

In Medicine and Veterinary Medicine BMJ Best Practice – online has been acquired. Best Practice is a completely new concept for information delivered at the point of care. In a single source they have combined the latest research evidence, guidelines and expert opinion - presented in a step-by-step approach, covering prevention, diagnosis, treatment and prognosis. Best Practice provides a second opinion in an instant, without the need for checking multiple resources. Its unique patient-focused approach represents a major new advancement in information delivery at the point of care. Best Practice is published by the BMJ Evidence Centre- a division of the BMJ Group.

Another MVM highlight was Veterinary Clinics of North America - Equine Veterinary Clinics of North America: Equine Practice offers the most current information on the treatment of horses; updates on the latest advances; and provides a sound basis for choosing treatment options. Each issue focuses on a single topic in equine practice.

End of Combined Library Committee Papers