

## The World Wide Web

Tony Barry heads the experimental World Wide Web server of the ANU Library's 'Centre for Networked Access to Scholarly Information' (CNASI)

Tony's span of current interests gives a good guide to where advanced applications of IT are leading in at least one university library. If the list that follows leaves you breathless, think what the picture across the nation would look like...

The Centre has been set up to undertake innovative projects for the delivery of information to the academic community. At present its projects include:

- initial design and testing work to assist in the establishment of the ANU's *Campus Wide Information System*;
- the design and establishment of the *Electronic Library Information System at ANU (Elisa) gopher service*. The maintenance of the service has largely been transferred to the Information Service Division of the Library. Part of this service involves providing an Australian site for Yale directories to all the *library catalogues on the Internet*; Minnesota Universities directories to *all gophers*; CICNet *collection of e-serials*; collection of pointers to *Australian Electronic Serials*; and Michigan School of Librarianship collection of *guides to the Network*.
- with the assistance of the Coombs Computing Unit, software has been developed and deployed to generate *daily email based newspapers* from the Reuters newsfeed data service. Reuters intends to market this service nationally, a companion retrospective database of material downloaded for ANU purposed running under WAIS software is being developed;
- improvement of access to electronic information on Asia by establishing, in cooperation with the National Library, the *asialib* mailing list for Librarians with interest in Asian collections; mounting the demonstration Asian Documents Online *ADD-ON database* of translated tables of contents of Indonesian and Chinese serials; cooperation with Ohio State University in

assisting them with a similar project; and developing a comprehensive access tool to *Asian related information* on the Internet;

- a joint consultancy to the Committee for the Advancement of University Teaching (CAUT) on how to establish a national network of centres for teaching resource material with Dr David Green, Professor Michael Greenhalgh, and Dr Jim Croft;
- with Linda Heron of Griffith University, to compile and maintain a *list of email based conferences* of national interest;
- testing of different methods of giving students access to course-related material over the network is underway. Some initial work was done with Chris Trevitt of the Forestry department on fire management material which is now mounted in a far more developed form at the Research School of Biological Sciences

as *FireNet*;

- more recently, some *exam papers* have been scanned, OCRd and mounted on a web server;
- data and links to data were assembled on a gopher server as a prototype of a *National Network Information Centre*;
- major documents listing networked information retrieval software have been mounted locally;
- a demonstration document has been prepared giving access to (mainly) *US government information* on the net, to illustrate the technology;
- a *proposal* is being developed with Steve Thomas at the University of Adelaide for document delivery of images;
- electronic publication is being tested on a web server;
- coordination of the three-month national trial of the OCLC suite of databases called *FirstSearch*, intended for use by end-users rather than by library staff. ■

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