

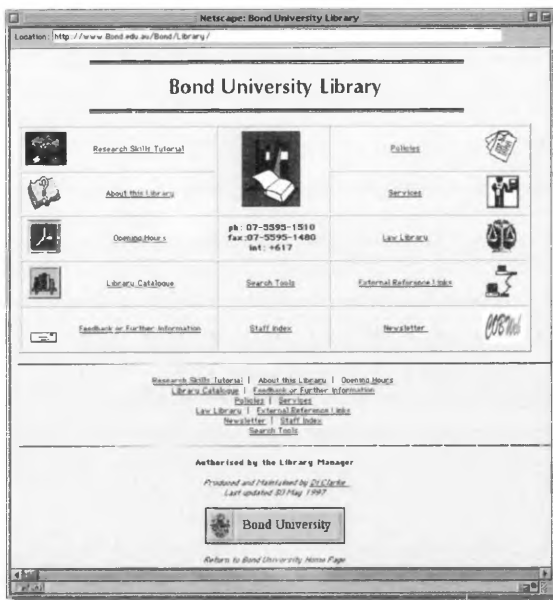
Library literacy — the way forward

Di Clarke, Bond University Library

A world of information at your fingertips' is the title of Bond University Library's research skills tutorial. It is a modular program, written for the web and designed in response to changing student attitudes, study preferences, and lifestyles.

While the library continues to offer hands-on workshops, it is difficult to deliver a comprehensive tutorial within the one-hour sessions, and many students prefer a self-paced approach anyway. Most high school graduates are computer literate and feel comfortable in the Internet environment.

Instruction begins with an overview of the search process, then proceeds with a step-by-step guide to various aspects of CD-ROM searching, using the library catalogue, and navigating the Internet effectively. An interactive questionnaire is also included which allows for comments and can be e-mailed to library staff. The questions are



simple, yet designed to test students' understanding of basic library skills.

The site was intended to be attractive and easy to read as well as informative. Images, screen shots and tables have been incorporated to illustrate important concepts, and in some cases merely to break the monotony of purely textual information. All new students receive a flyer in their orientation packages which describes the tutorial and how it can be accessed.

There are many advantages to writing instructional materials in HTML. Firstly, the pervasiveness of the Internet allows information to be distributed widely, and students can use the materials from a variety of locations. Secondly, the dynamic nature of the medium allows the content to be refined, improved and updated easily. Thirdly, as mentioned earlier, the modular format allows instructors to offer a wide coverage of search processes without the danger of information overload. This format also gives students the option of quickly selecting the information they require without leaving the workstation.

The web-based tutorial currently available is only the first step in attempting to address the changing environment of contemporary student needs. It is certainly not complete, but is considered to be the beginning of a dynamic instructional package which can be used as a foundation for flexible, yet comprehensive assistance to all library patrons.

The site is accessible from the library's home page, or directly at the following URL, <http://www.bond.edu.au/Bond/Library/Research/title.html>. Any comments, suggestions or constructive criticism from colleagues will be most welcome.



... from previous page

library and Archive Studies. Contact: Maureen Henninger, ph 02 9385 3589, fx 02 9385 3430, M.Henninger@unsw.edu.au.

- 13/11 NSW Information Science section. *Seminar on intranets and knowledge management*. Macquarie Uni, Graduate School of Management, Sydney. 9:30–5pm. \$110 ISS members, \$130 non-members. Bookings: ACMS, ph 02 9332 4622, fx 02 9332 4066, whfoda@acms.com.au. Enquiries: Katie Wilson, ph 02 9850 7509, kwilson@library.mq.edu.au.

14/11 Insearch/Knight-Ridder Information Seminars. Introductory DIA-LOG seminar. Sydney contact: 02 9212 2867, krinfo.aus@uts.edu.au.

- 30/11 Hunter Regional group meeting. *Christmas function*. For further details contact: Mrs Judith McLean, ph 02 4926 7267, fx 02 4926 7324.

NT

- 8/10 NT Library Technician section meeting, Casuarina Public Library, 5:30pm. Contact: Karen Conway, ph 08 8945 0183.

- 16/10 NT Branch meeting. Casuarina Public Library, 4:30pm. Contact: Ana Govan 08 8924 7311.

QLD

- Oct Qld Branch. *Demystifying telecommunications*. Half day. Contact: Jenny McCarthy, ph 07 3864 3373, j.mccarthy@qut.edu.au.

- 2/10 Qld Cataloguers section. *Dewey 21: new numbers for an old game*. Audiographic teleconference linking Brisbane, Cairns, Mackay, Rockhampton and Townsville. 1:30–4:30pm, \$35 ALIA members, \$40 non-members, \$30 students. Contact: Erhard Dehmelt, ph 07 3840 7848.

- 3/10 Qld TAFE section. *Marketing your library*. COTAH Auditorium, Hospitality Building, Corner Merivale and Tribune Streets, South Brisbane. 9–12pm, \$20 ALIA members, \$25 non-members. Contact: Janice Cook, ph 07 3354 5542, fx 07 3354 5525, jacook@hotmail.com.

- 13/10–8/12 Qld Library Technician section meetings. State Library of Qld, Metway Theatre, 5:30pm (unless advised otherwise). 13/10 — informal post-conference at Cafe (TBA); 10/11 — bring a Library Technician; 8/12 — AGM and Christmas lunch (venue: TBA). Contact: Heather Gray, ph 07 3226 6184.

- 10/11 Qld Branch Council meeting.

continued next page...

More Solutions from the Experts in Information Management

- Database Creation
Use DB/Textworks and BookWhere for information capture and management
- Web Publishing
Use our Web Hosting Service to put your database on the World Wide Web
- Consultants Register
Add your name to the register on the World Wide Web

TRIAD

DATA-MAGIC PTY LTD
Tel (03) 9696 4866
<http://www.triad-data-magic.com.au>

Suppliers of
Inmagic DB/TextWorks
DB/Text WebPublisher
BookWhere?

plus many other products and services.

Resource Options
Brisbane
Tel (07) 3849 1383

Information Enterprises
Australia, Perth
Tel (08) 9335 2533

Enterprise Information
Management, Sydney
Tel (02) 9958 7099

GSA Information
Consultants, Brisbane
Tel (07) 3862 4538

Call now for more information
visit our Web site, or come to
our stand at "On the Edge"