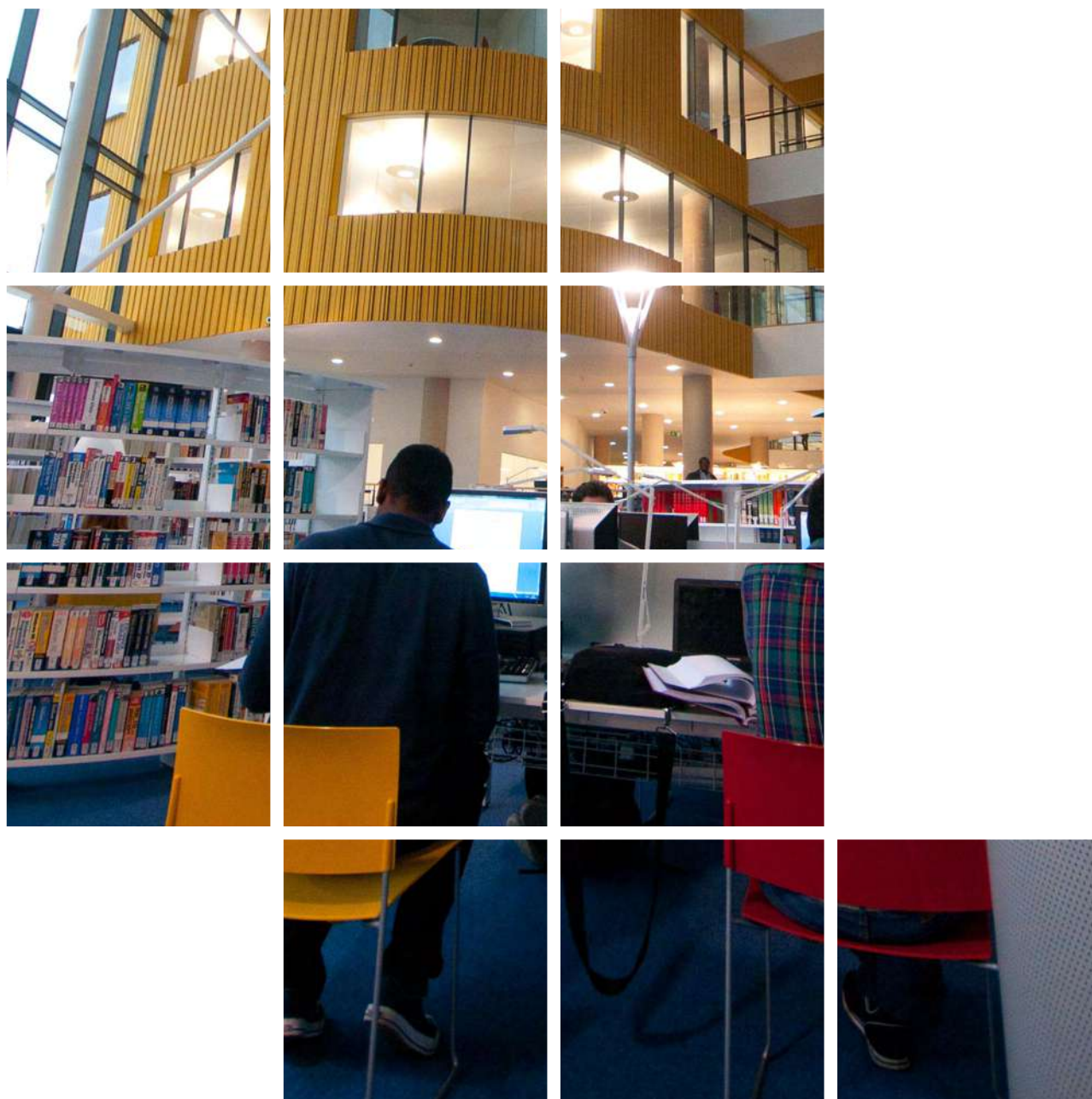WHELF

Annual Report 2011-2012

Wales Higher Education Libraries Forum

WHELF (Wales Higher Education Libraries Forum) is a collaborative group of all the university and higher education libraries in Wales, together with the National Library of Wales. It is chaired by the Librarian of the National Library of Wales and its members include Directors of Information Services and Heads of Library Services.

The purpose of WHELF is to promote library and information services collaboration, to seek cost benefits for consortial services, to encourage the exchange of ideas, to provide a forum for mutual support and to help facilitate new initiatives in library and information service provision.

WHELF actively promotes the work of higher education libraries in Wales and provides a focus for the development of new ideas and services.

WHELF Libraries

Aberystwyth University
Bangor University
Cardiff Metropolitan University
Cardiff University
Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol
Glyndŵr University
National Library of Wales
The Open University in Wales
Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama
Swansea Metropolitan University
Swansea University
University of Glamorgan
University of Wales
University of Wales, Newport
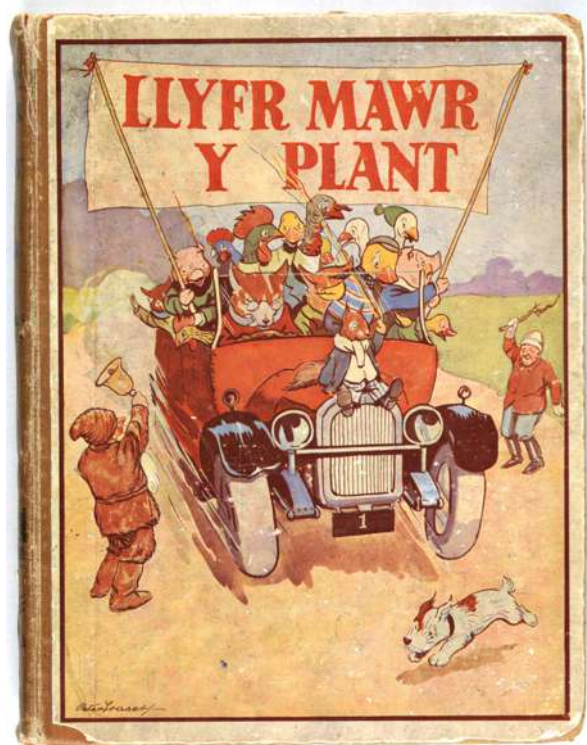University of Wales Trinity Saint David

Contents

Chair's Introduction

The pace of change in Welsh higher education continues to accelerate. In 2011/12 the effects of large structural and financial changes began to be felt. At times it seems that nothing remains still for long. Libraries, however, continue to have an enduring and critical role in maintaining and improving the well-being of their parent institutions.

Partnership and cooperation between HE institutions, in an age when research and learning are dominated by competition and the market, often fail to make the transition from rhetoric to reality. In the world of libraries, however, things are different. WHELF, long admired outside Wales for its comradely ethos, has had another highly successful year in its efforts to create more value than the 'sum of the parts'. Under its umbrella libraries have succeeded in sharing good practice, pursuing common services, improving the experience of researchers and learners and saving money for their institutions.

This is my final year as Chair of WHELF. I first joined in 1992, as Librarian of the University College of Swansea. At that time we would sit in the deep armchairs of Gregynog admiring the colour of one another's socks - we were mostly male - and share experiences and bottles of ale. Now WHELF is different. We still share experience and the odd sip of Blayney's Brew, but discussion is usually directed towards cooperative action, operations or services. The crucial factor in being able to turn talk into action was the inauguration of the post of part-time

Llyfr Mawr y Plant – a classic Welsh children's book

WHELF Development Officer, held first by Elizabeth Kensler and now by Sue Mace: no organisation could be blessed with better support.

I'd like to thank all the current and past members of WHELF, who have made the organisation what it is today: a force for the common good and a friendly means of exchanging knowledge and experience. It has been a rare privilege to chair such a wholly admirable body.

Andrew M. W. Green
National Library of Wales
Chair, Wales Higher Education Libraries Forum

The Year in Brief

The landscape of higher education in Wales is changing and it is part of WHELF's remit to support its academic library members as they work to deliver excellent, cost effective library services to staff and students in the new institutions.

Reconfiguration

On 17 July, Education and Skills Minister Leighton Andrews made a statement on higher education reconfiguration in South East Wales. It included the following:
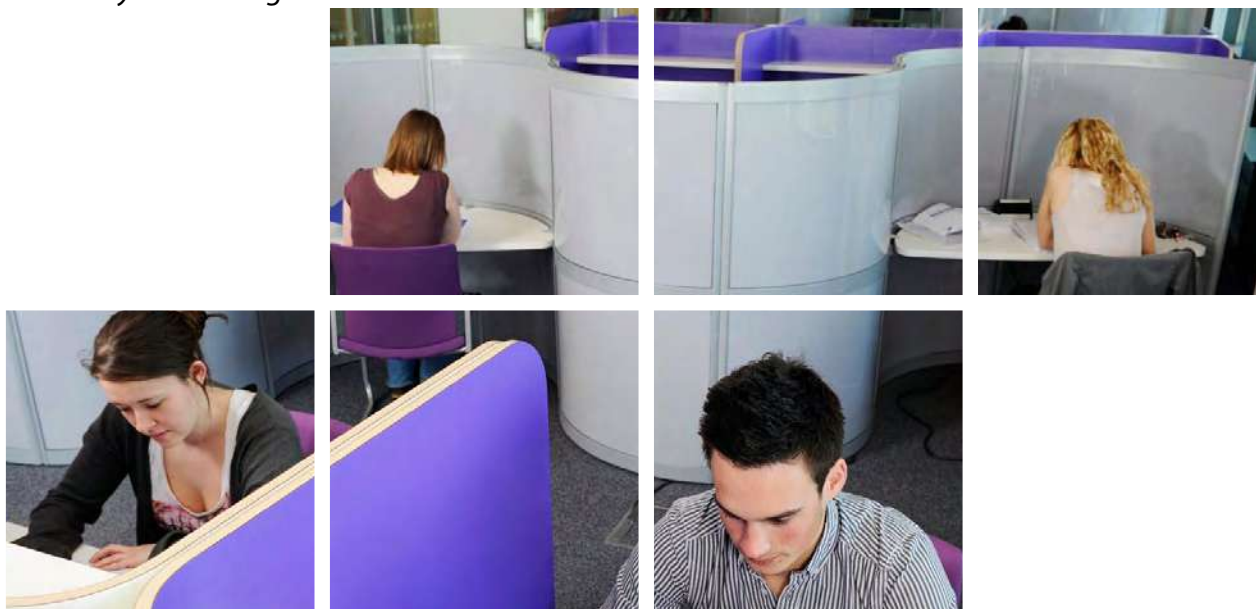
"... I continue to believe that HEFCW's proposal for a strong metropolitan university in South East Wales remains a sound one. I welcome, therefore, the recent announcement by the University of Glamorgan and the University of Wales, Newport regarding their intention to merge."
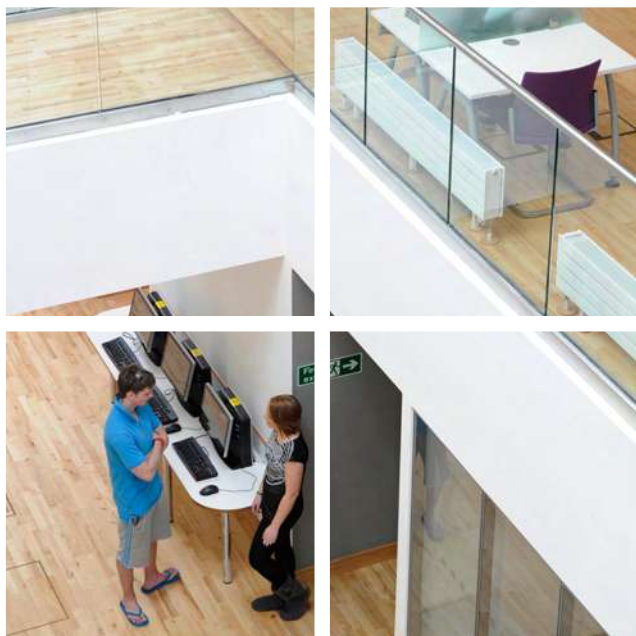
"I have noted the recent response of the governing body of Cardiff Metropolitan University to the proposed merger and of their desire to remain outside of any merger discussions. However, I continue to believe that there is a case for that institution to join with the University of Wales, Newport and the University of Glamorgan."

Progress on the merger of Newport and Glamorgan is expected by 2013. In the meantime the merger of Swansea Metropolitan University with the University of Wales Trinity Saint David is well under way. It is envisaged that the two institutions will have integrated during 2012/13 and courses will continue to be delivered from campuses in Swansea, Lampeter and Carmarthen

In December, Aberystwyth and Bangor Universities announced a new Strategic Alliance which is already beginning to broaden and deepen the partnership between the two universities into areas such as joint strategies in Teaching and Learning, Innovation and Engagement, widening access and regional planning.

We welcomed a new member of WHELF this year, Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol. The Coleg is a new national institution which will play a key role in planning, supporting and developing Welsh medium education and scholarship at universities in Wales. It began its first full academic year in September 2011 and we look forward to developing effective collaborative partnerships.

Health Library study spaces, Cardiff University **4**

Health Library, Cardiff University

Libraries Inspire

The new strategic development framework for Welsh libraries 2012-2016 was published this year. Its shared vision is that "Libraries will inspire the people of Wales to enjoy reading, enhance their knowledge and skills, to enrich their quality of life and empower them to realise their full potential."

The Libraries Inspire Delivery Plan for 2012/13 outlines specific actions and targets and a number of WHELF priorities have been included – walk-in access to electronic resources, mapping collections, digitisation, shared library management systems and implementing the Information Literacy Framework for Wales.

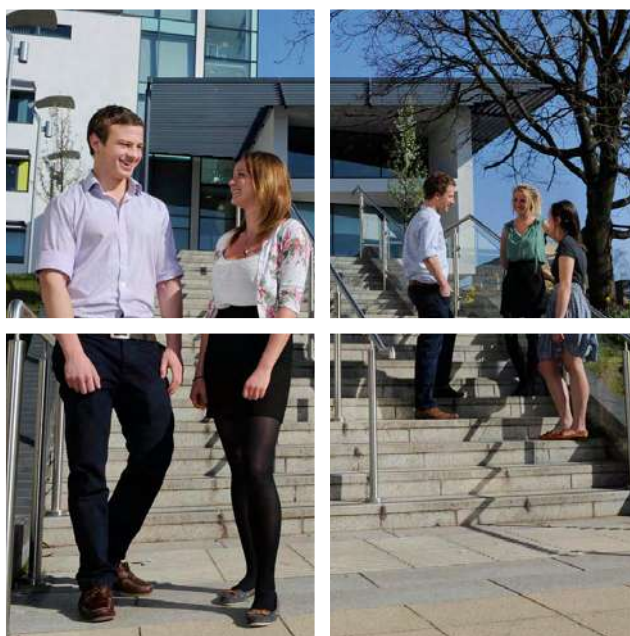## Libraries – improving the student experience

Libraries form an important part of a university's offer and can be the difference between high and low levels of student satisfaction. Academic libraries in Wales continued to open new facilities to ensure that they gave students the very best experience during the course of their studies.

Cardiff University's brand new Health Library at the Cochrane Building, Heath Park, opened in November. The new library, which is open 24 hours a day, offers a range of learning spaces over three floors, tailored for quiet individual study, group work and an informal social space.

At Swansea Metropolitan University work continued on a new library at the Tŷ Bryn Glas site in the city centre, the new home for the Faculty of Business & Management.
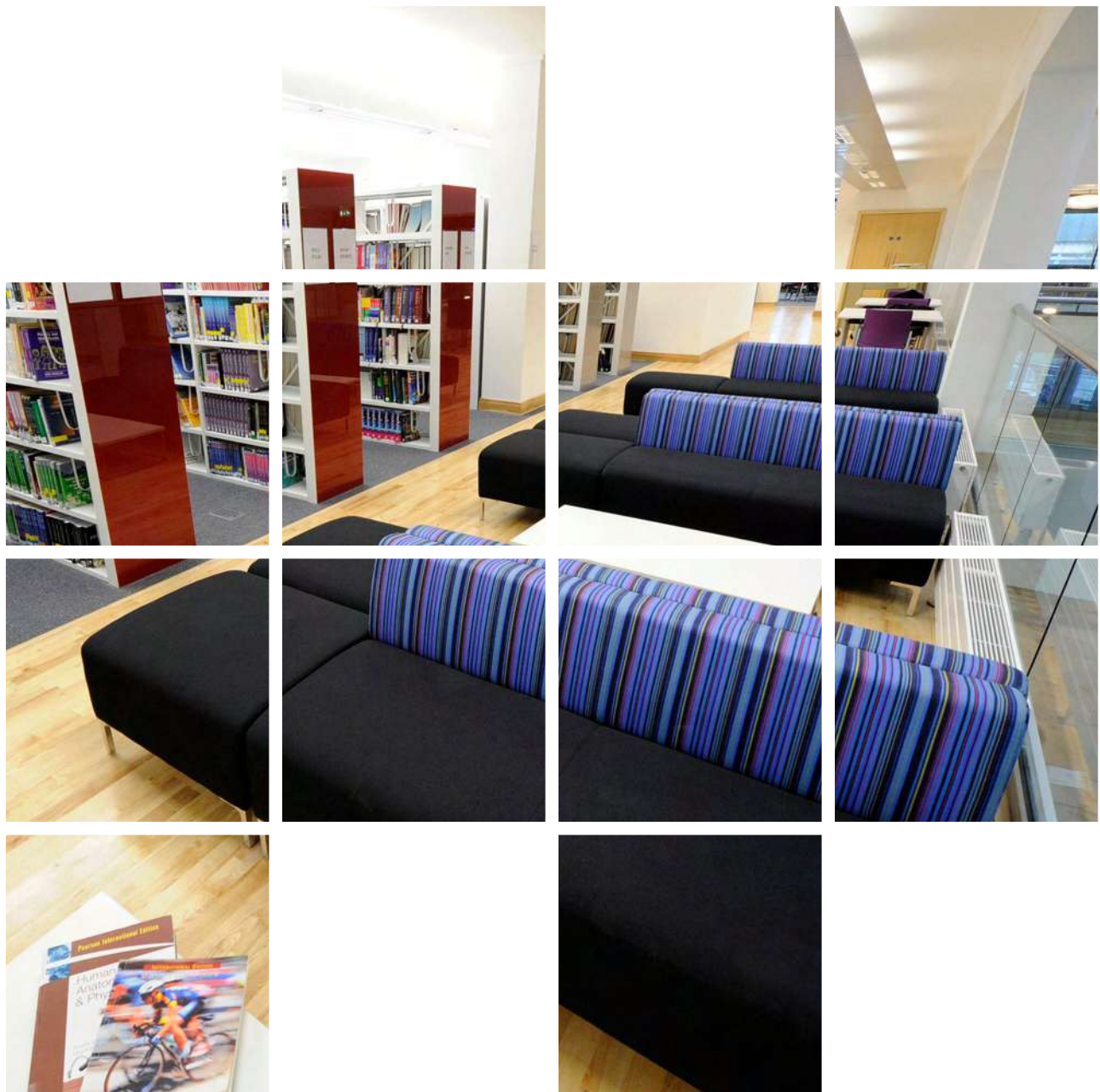
Refurbishment work started in the Learning Resource Centre on the Lampeter campus of the University of Wales Trinity Saint David. It will link the library to a one-stop shop for students and provide a new mezzanine learning resource social area.

At Bangor University a new Social Learning Zone has been created on the ground floor of the Deiniol Library giving a brighter, branded, more upbeat and spacious feel. The area provides a range of study spaces to support different learning, teaching and research activities. The new Library and Archives Strategy includes the development of the concept of a "model library" to meet the needs of today's students and academic staff.

Outside the Health Library, Cardiff University

Plans are under way at the University of Glamorgan to modernise and refurbish the Treforest Learning Resources Centre. The new facility will create more space and re-house some student-facing support services and open access computer facilities under one roof as well as providing a wider range of study spaces.

The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama has won four RIBA awards – Welsh Building of the Year, Welsh Client of the Year, Welsh Architecture Award and Regional Architecture Award. At the first birthday celebration of the opening of the new building on 23rd June, Education and Skills Minister Leighton Andrews called the College 'the jewel in Wales' national crown'.
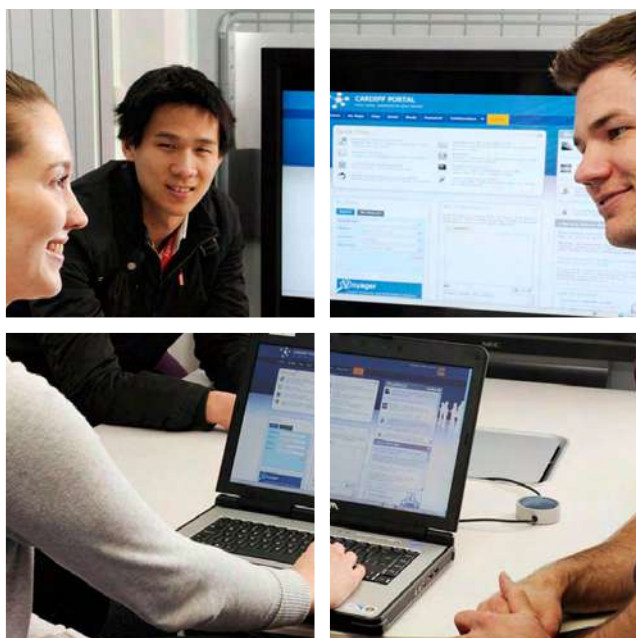
The Work of WHELF

Higher education libraries in Wales have a fundamental role to play in widening access; the student experience; skills, employability and enterprise; innovation and engagement; and research.

Libraries are at the heart of the student experience. They provide excellent support, world-class collections and innovative services. In the context of a diverse student population with increasingly high expectations, they are working to develop services in an ever more innovative and student-focused way. Where projects and collaborations have pooled these resources to meet the diverse student experience we have seen significant leaps forward which individual institutions would not have been able to achieve alone.

Several recent reports have highlighted the development of shared services as a key strategy for higher education library services to mitigate the effects of a reduction in cost base. For example, *Challenges for academic libraries in difficult economic times (London: RIN, March 2010) stated that "co-operation is probably the only way to achieve significant cost savings while at the same time sustaining momentum in developing new services to meet the needs of … users".*

Students working together at Cardiff University's new Health Library

Collaboration and Partnership

WHELF Sharing Library Services Programme

Sharing services and systems has been an area of increasing interest across WHELF libraries for a number of years and WHELF has a long history of implementing successful collaborative initiatives. These have included pioneering library access schemes involving all the Welsh higher education institutions (the WALIA (Welsh Academic Libraries Inter-Access) scheme for researchers and the CROESO ('welcome' in English) scheme for students). The Welsh Repository Network (WRN) remains a collaborative venture to establish, develop and populate a network of interoperable institutional repositories. The Wales Higher Education Electronic Library (WHEEL) has enabled all higher education libraries in Wales to share access to collections of electronic books and journals online.

Our strategic vision for the "Sharing Library Services Programme" is to enable access to the shared resources and services of a virtual academic library for Wales. Our ambition is that the Programme will have direct impacts on individual learners and/or citizens, learning institutions and Wales as a vibrant knowledge economy:

- Individuals will be able to exploit the shared services delivered directly to them,
- learning institutions (across the sectoral boundaries) will find it easier to collaborate for learning, teaching and research and
- Wales will have a visible platform for access to knowledge within and to Welsh businesses as well as showcasing the knowledge created in Wales to economic and political partners.

Sharing a Library Management System (LMS)

Sharing a library management system is seen as a potential area to drive further collaboration and forms a key part of the WHELF Action Plan 2011-13

WHELF received funding from CyMAL to complete a research, scoping and specification study. This work was led by Mark Hughes at Swansea University and was completed in February 2012. It identified the need to investigate a broad range of potential new models and approaches to library systems and services.

To build on this work, WHELF made a successful bid to JISC for a pathfinder project which is being led by Cardiff University: *Shared LMS: Business Case Evaluation.* This will explore potential benefits, including cost benefits, of libraries moving from their existing LMS to a more centralised shared model. It will build a possible overall business case for such a move by libraries within the WHELF consortium. Open source, proprietary and hybrid solutions will be explored, and the potential delivery models will be based on the Welsh IT infrastructure, but applicable to other consortia.

Cloud for Wales

Academic libraries took part in two meetings which were held at the National Library of Wales this year. It was an opportunity for leaders and senior staff from the sector to consider the potential use of cloud computing in their institutions as a way of sharing and improving services.

Sharing our expertise

WHELF is supporting a number of initiatives to ensure that specialist expertise is shared between the various higher education libraries in Wales:

- The WHELF Copyright Group has a focus on sharing knowledge, advice and experience to the benefit of individual institutions.
- The WHELF Archives and Special Collections group is working collaboratively to map and digitise collections and develop shared bids for funding.
- ALIS Wales is a group of LIS professionals working towards the sharing and development of best practice in all aspects of disability support within library and information service provision in the higher education sector in Wales.

Working in partnership

This year we have taken the opportunity to work with a number of similar organisations across the UK to share information and knowledge.
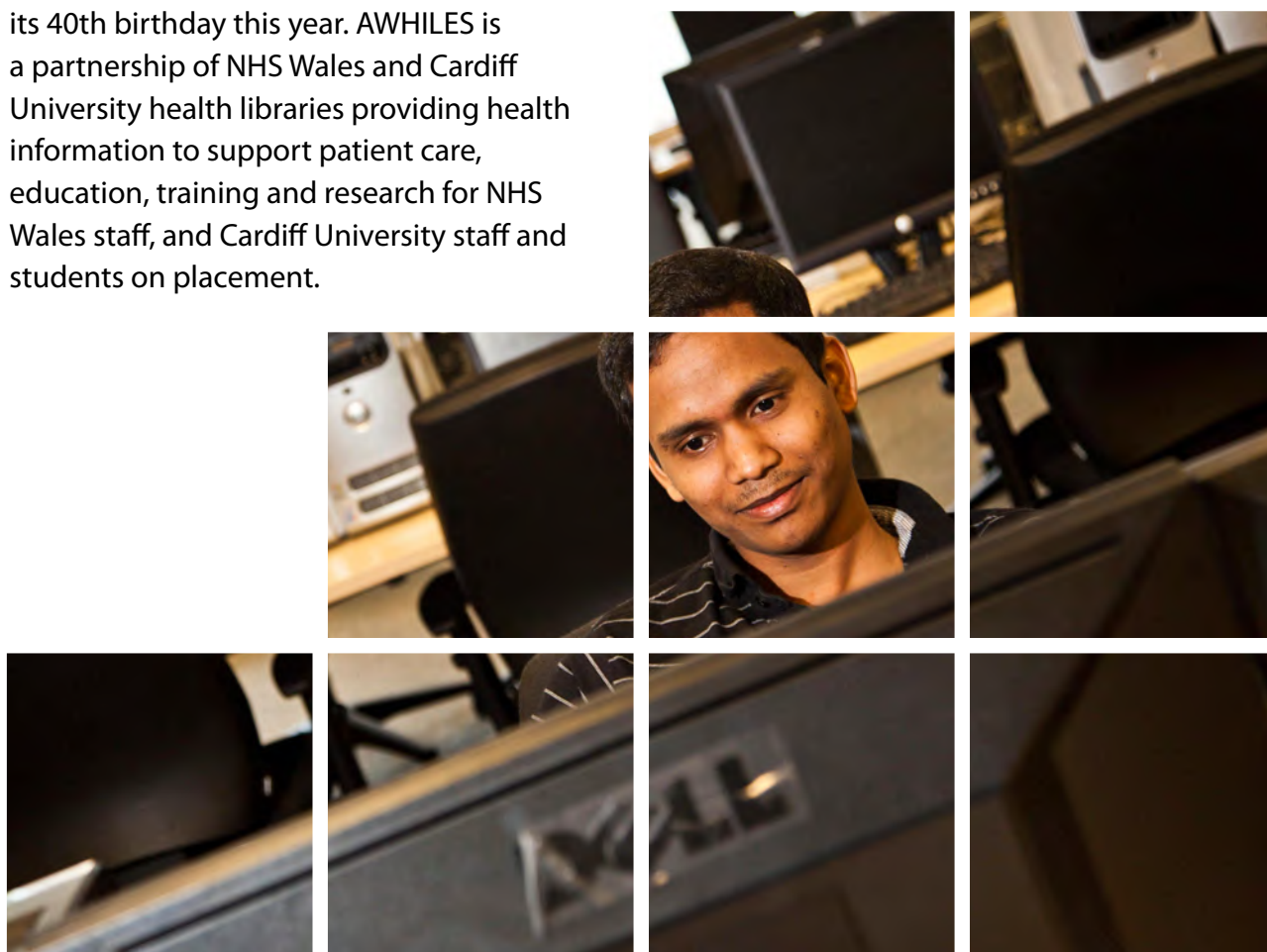
These have included the Society of College, National and University Libraries (SCONUL), the Scottish Confederation of University and Research Libraries (SCURL), the Consortium of National and University Libraries (CONUL) in Ireland, the Northern Collaboration, the North West Academic Libraries (NoWAL) and the M25 Consortium of Academic Libraries.

A group of senior staff from a range of JISC programmes ran a seminar and discussion session with WHELF at the National Library of Wales in May. Strategic themes included:

• Data driven infrastructure – the re-use of information across services and systems to support a more flexible and agile service infrastructure. Examples included Knowledge Base +, exploiting library data, discovery services, open access, open educational resources (OER), digitisation and sustainability.

• Shared infrastructure – the focus on research data, information and library infrastructure, research management and repositories.

We have also set up regular meetings with the Society of Chief Librarians (Wales) in order to determine areas where we might productively work together for the benefit of library users.

The All Wales Health Information and Library Extension Service (AWHILES) celebrated its 40th birthday this year. AWHILES is a partnership of NHS Wales and Cardiff University health libraries providing health information to support patient care, education, training and research for NHS Wales staff, and Cardiff University staff and students on placement.

Widening Access

Access to shared electronic resources

The groundbreaking three-year deal with Oxford University Press is now in its second year. As members of the **W**ales **H**igher **E**ducation **E**lectronic **L**ibrary, all higher education libraries in Wales share access to the same collection of over 200 full text journals online.

Negotiations are underway with other journal publishers in order to extend this provision. As a result we would expect to see that access to content is widened, that there is parity of access across institutions, there is increase in usage, and there are efficiency gains, with reduced operational costs. Most importantly, for the user, there is access to more content, which is accessible at the point of need, and at any time.

A new tool launched by Information Services at Cardiff University and JISC allows libraries to assess the popularity and use of e-resources so they continue to deliver value for money. Libraries using Raptor can produce statistics on e-resource use whenever they are needed in as much detail as they require – for example, usage by an individual university department.

Cardiff University

A number of WHELF libraries are trialling 'Patron Driven Acquisition' or 'Demand Driven Acquisition' for e-books. In this model, the library offers access to a huge menu of content but only pays for material actually used by staff and students. Bangor University received CyMAL funding for a patron driven project. Bangor reported on the project and circulated a questionnaire which sought the views of WHELF members regarding a consortial level deal.

Walk-in Access Wales

WHELF pioneered two schemes, CROESO and WALIA, both of which have now been replaced by SCONUL Access. This is a reciprocal access scheme, granting borrowing privileges to many types of library users working or studying at participating higher education libraries in the United Kingdom and Ireland.
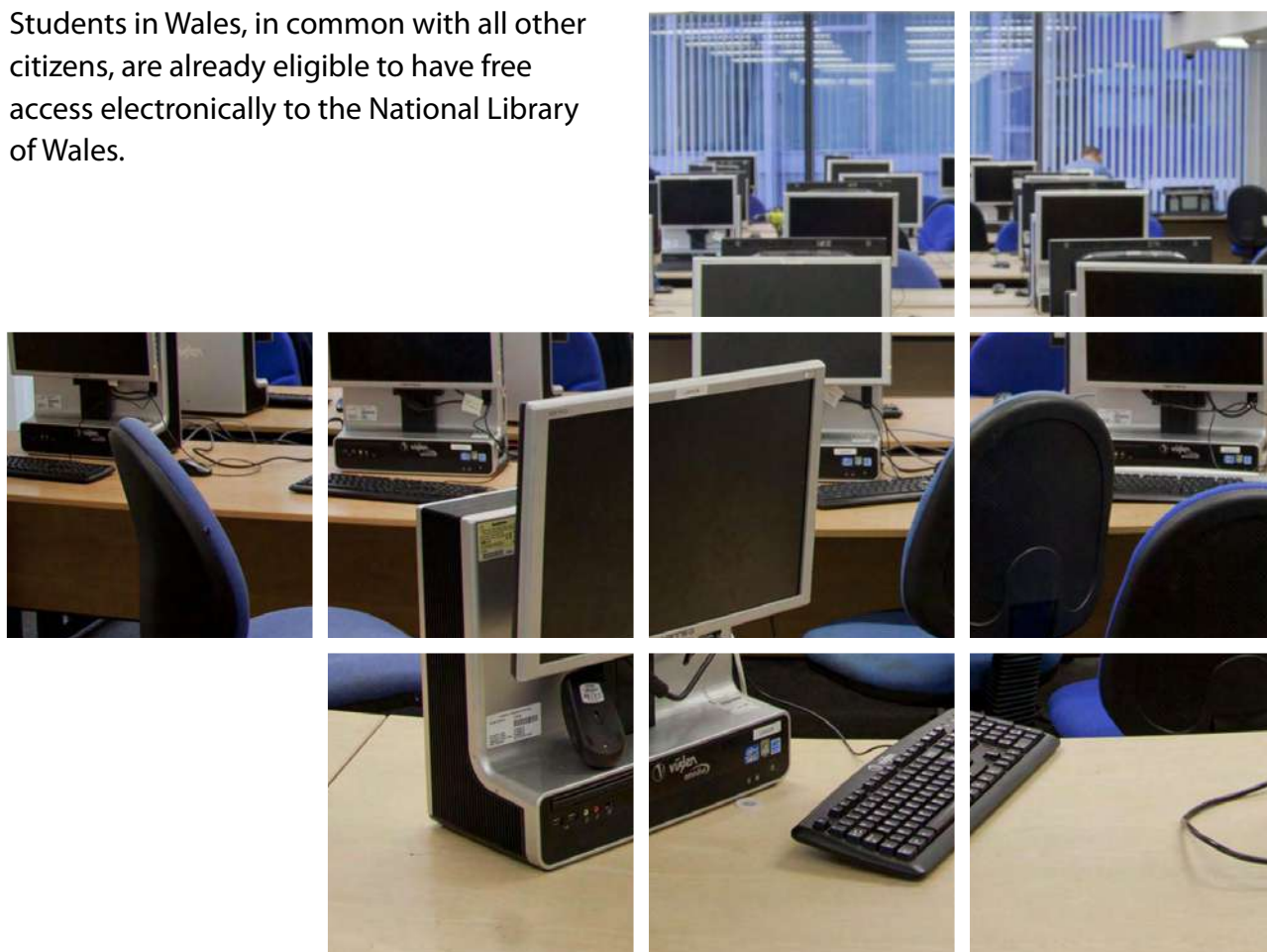
Many libraries are also open to the public for consultation, and there are a number of regional partnerships in place which allow reciprocal borrowing between the various libraries. Examples include Books4U in Newport and a community membership scheme in Cardiff which went live with a free lending scheme from June to September.

However, the increasing dependence on electronic resources is diminishing the value of current access arrangements between libraries as they relate only to printed materials.

Walk-in Access Wales is a new WHELF project to enable people to access electronic resources in Welsh higher education libraries. The project has a focus on implementing a practical solution in pilot sites at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David and developing a tool kit to help other Welsh institutions set up walk-in access in the future.

The project is part-funded by a grant from CyMAL and project partners include Cardiff, Cardiff Metropolitan, Aberystwyth and Bangor universities. We are working closely with SCONUL and SCURL to share experience and expertise.

Students in Wales, in common with all other citizens, are already eligible to have free access electronically to the National Library of Wales.

Skills

Glyndŵr University
© Welsh Government (Libraries Inspire)

Welsh Information Literacy Project

After two very successful years based at Cardiff University, this WHELF-led project has moved to Grŵp Llandrillo Menai for its third year where it will focus on implementation.

Since the start of the project two years ago, it has achieved the following:

- Produced an Information Literacy Framework for Wales.
- Created and piloted accredited units of learning in information literacy.
- Created and distributed postcards and leaflets to assist in the dissemination of our message.
- Created advocacy materials for the benefits of information literacy in schools.
- Conducted a benefits analysis of information literacy in the workplace.
- Formulated a response to the Welsh Government's Digital Inclusion Framework and supported the delivery of the Digital Wales agenda objectives.

To be information literate, a student must be able to recognise when information is needed and have the ability to locate, evaluate and use it effectively. It is an essential skill for employment.

Learning in Digital Wales

Chair of WHELF, Andrew Green, was a member of the Task and Finish Group which published its report entitled *Find it, Make it, Use it, Share it – Learning in Digital Wales* in March 2012. The Education and Skills Minister has considered the wide ranging recommendations in this report and has agreed an action plan for the use of digital technology to improve performance in schools.

He is establishing a National Digital Learning Council to provide expert and strategic guidance on the use of digital technology in teaching and learning in Wales.

In December 2012 he will be launching a new bilingual learning platform for Wales, for which the working title is Hwb. This will provide the online home for a national digital repository of teaching and learning resources. Hwb will host resources which can be used on a variety of platforms. One element of Hwb, however, will be the use of the free iTunes University platform (iTunes U) in order to showcase the best educational resources and activities in Wales.

Support for Research

"It is clear that as the nature of research within our institutions changes, so must the role of the library in supporting research. The increasingly competitive research environment demands greater collaboration (across discipline, institutional, and national boundaries) and generates greater quantities of data than ever before. In addition, funders are placing increased emphasis on the demonstration of the impact of research outputs and engendering wide dissemination of research findings."
David Prosser, Executive Director, RLUK

WHELF members considered a timely report from RLUK this year, *Re-skilling for Research*, which looked in detail at researchers' information needs and how best these needs can be met by the library. This will be an ongoing area of work for WHELF in the year ahead. We want to place the needs of researchers in the context of the libraries current offering, and look at how we must change to fulfil the new demands placed upon us.

Expanding access to research publications: the Finch report
We also discussed the implications of the Finch report. The report envisages that several different channels for communicating research results will remain important over the next few years, but recommends a clear policy direction in the UK towards support for open access publishing. The preference for "gold" over "green" open access will have implications for library budgets as libraries will still have to buy journals while funding open access.

Welsh Repository Network
Developed under the auspices of WHELF, the Welsh Repository Network (WRN) remains a collaborative venture between the higher education institutions in Wales to establish, develop and populate a network of interoperable institutional repositories. The vision that underpins the network is to facilitate and encourage resource sharing across the principality and to maximise the impact of Welsh research across the globe. Work continues on how we might further develop the network now that external funding has ceased. Discussion has taken place about a shared repository for Wales.

Theses Collection Wales
The collection allows users to view both electronic and paper copies of theses and dissertations from every higher education institution in Wales through a dedicated catalogue. The collection comprises theses arising from PhD and research Masters degrees, as well as taught Masters dissertations which have a Welsh interest or have gained a distinction. The vast majority of the current collection is in paper format, but electronic deposit is becoming increasingly common.
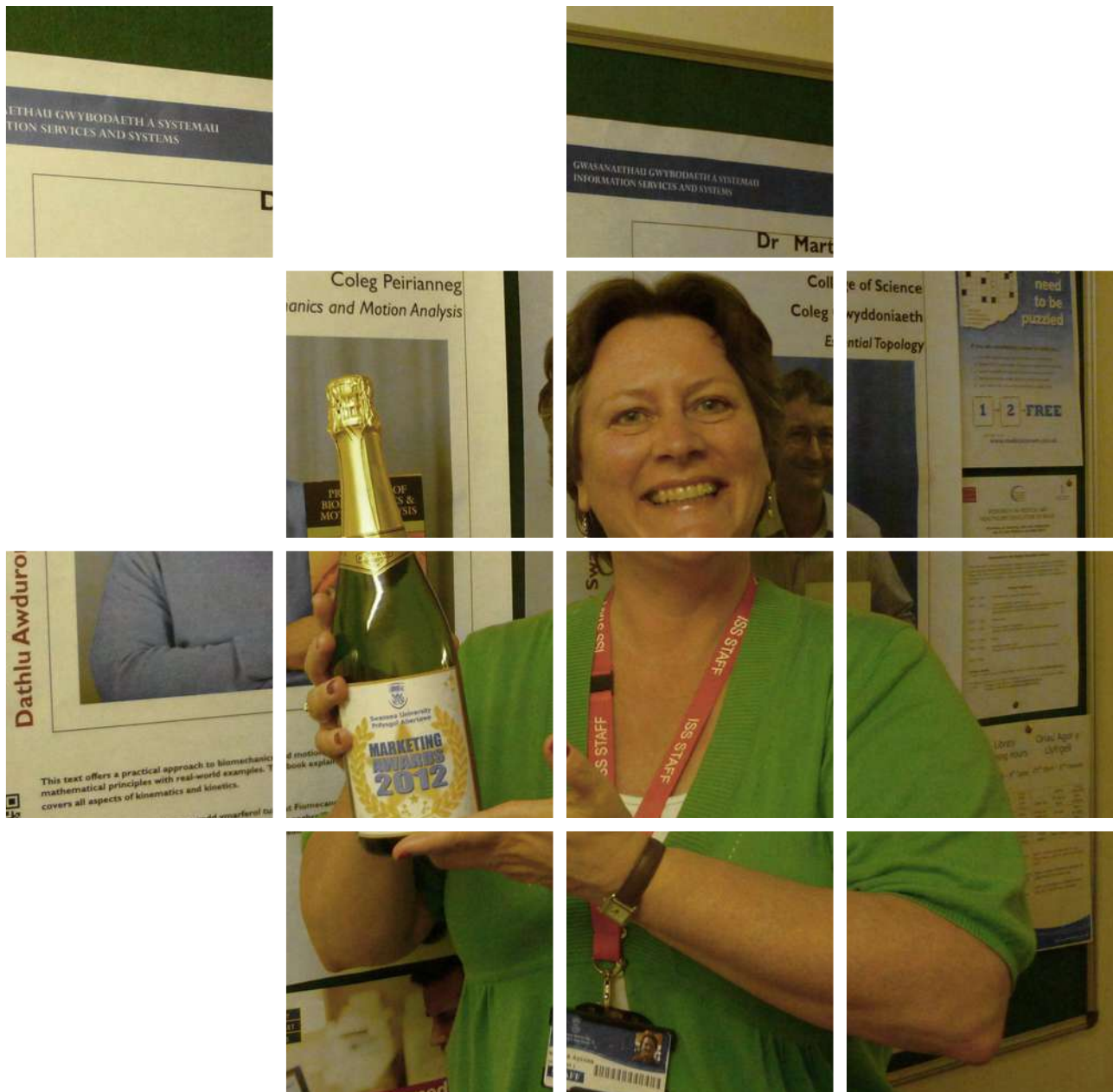
Research data management

JISC considers it a priority to promote and support good research data management and sharing for the benefit of UK higher education and research. At Cardiff University work is underway to investigate the business case and desirability of implementing a CRIS (Current Research Information System), which would both provide an interface between the different types of research information in the university and a future data storage architecture.

Celebrating Swansea University Authors

An innovative idea from the Marketing Team at ISS at Swansea University has won them the higher education category in the Welsh National Libraries Marketing Innovation Awards for the second year running. ISS were praised for the Celebrating Swansea University Authors Project, which involves published authors from the University speaking on short videos about their books and what inspired them to write.

Lori Havard – ISS won the award for Marketing Team of the Year at Swansea University **15**

Collections

WHELF Archives and Special Collections Group

The group had a very successful year, generating two major funding awards for collaborative projects: The Welsh Experience of World War One and Collections Wales.

Work continues on a new strategy for collaborative work on archives and special collections to replace the current WHELF digitisation strategy:

WHELF's strategy is to collaborate, together or through particular alliances, in:

- *creating new digital content (or enhancing the value of existing digitised content)*
- *sharing expertise and knowledge in digitisation policy and practices*
- *developing mechanisms and supporting materials to encourage take up for teaching, learning and research*
- *helping to make the research undertaken in Welsh higher education institutions more visible*

The Welsh Experience of World War One

A project developed by the WHELF Archives and Special Collections Group and led by the National Library of Wales received £500,000 in funding from the Joint Information Systems Committee (JISC) for mass digitisation of primary sources relating to World War One. Through digitisation and collaborative working this project will bring together an impressive array of scattered content into one place and promises to become a key reference point for researchers and students looking at the Welsh experience of World War One.

The project will make available a unique digital collection revealing the hidden history of World War One as it affected all aspects of Welsh life, language and culture. The project will digitise printed and manuscript sources as well as moving image, audio and photographic material. These source materials are presently fragmented and frequently inaccessible, yet collectively they form a unique resource of vital interest to researchers, students, and the public in Wales and beyond.

The content to be digitised has been selected in collaboration with academics in Wales and beyond, and the digital outputs of the project will lead to new research findings about Wales in World War One.

4th Welch in Egypt, 1917

Collections Wales – mapping the printed and digital heritage of Wales to improve access

Across Wales there are hundreds of special collections, all unique and distinctive. Many are held in university libraries. These special and historical collections form part of the national heritage of Wales: they are about Wales, or collected by Welsh scholars, and form a vast, often untapped reservoir for academic research, local study, and public display and exploitation.

The first and most difficult task faced by those undertaking research is to discover what material is available and where it is. There is currently no shared catalogue or listing of collections in Wales. This means that access to these collections is now limited so by mapping the collections across Wales, this project will improve access and awareness, contributing to their visibility and encouraging outreach and community engagement.

'Boston MS' of the Laws of Hywel Dda

Welsh Newspapers and Magazines Online

This project aims to digitise 2 million pages of historical newspapers and journals relating to Wales and to provide new opportunities for existing and new audiences to research and exploit this magnificent record of everyday knowledge online. WHELF supported the National Library's successful funding bid to SCIF (the Strategic Capital Investment Fund), and its new EU 'Digitisation for Business' project, funded by ERDF, which will concentrate on the commercial exploitation by Convergence area companies of the 'digitised produce'.

Archives and Special Collections, Bangor University

Major refurbishment work has been carried out in the Archives and Special Collections this year, including a new fire detection system in all three strong rooms. As an aid to furthering the strategy of integrating the Archives with the academic departments and also with the wider community outside the University, a new education room has been created within the Archives. This will enable lectures to be given to students using original documents under recognised Archival control. It will also mean that teaching can take place without the need to disturb other researchers in the main reading room. This facility has been welcomed by various departments in the University and is seen as another aid to teaching, learning and research.

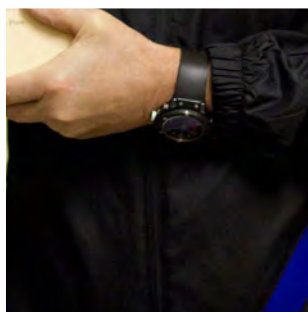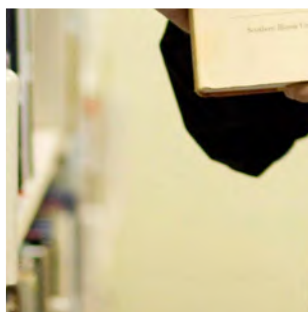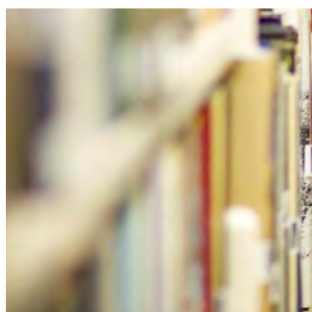## The Leonard and Marilou Goldstein Library

Dr Leonard Goldstein, a prominent American academic, this year bequeathed a donation of 30,000 books to Glyndŵr University from his collection, gathered over a long academic career. The collection spans topics including the humanities, social science, cultural and political studies and science.

The Milne Collection – An American Civil War Library

The Milne Collection of approximately 2,500 books was recently gifted to the American Studies programme at Swansea University. Among the most impressive holdings of the collection is a wide array of government documents, including the Presidential papers of Abraham Lincoln, Andrew Johnson and Ulysses S. Grant, as well as those of Confederate President Jefferson Davis.

The collection includes hundreds of personal narratives – including many post-Civil War veterans' writings and recollections – and is particularly strong on Civil War battles and campaigns; individual generals and other officers; fighting units and regimental histories; common soldier letters, diaries, reminiscences and autobiographies; strategy, tactics, weaponry and leadership; military manuals and organisational and support provision – especially medical and surgical services.

It attracted a famous visitor this year, Sir Alex Ferguson, who took time out of his busy schedule to visit the collection. Sir Alex has a long-standing fascination with the Civil War and a wide-ranging knowledge of American history. Unfortunately Sir Alex's Manchester United team weren't so kind to Swansea City's football team – they beat them 1–0!

Continuing Professional Development

Gregynog Colloquium 2012

Our annual conference for library and IT staff took place this year from 11-15 June at Gregynog. It is jointly supported by WHELF and the Higher Education Wales Information Technology forum, HEWIT.

Congratulations to Swansea University, Swansea Metropolitan University and the University of Wales Trinity Saint David who organised the event this year. Topics ranged widely and included the student experience, e-learning, reading list solutions, research support, information and digital literacy, social media, patron driven access to e-books and library management systems.

Welsh Collaboration in Action 2012

Higher education libraries have an important role to play in supporting higher education in further education, so each year WHELF organises an event for HE and FE staff – *Welsh Collaboration in Action* – to enable participants to share experiences, get up to date on recent developments and develop individual and shared programmes of action for the future. This year's event was held on 26 June at the new City Campus, University of Wales, Newport. The programme included inductions for HE students and the use of social media tools to share information, news and support with/for HE students.
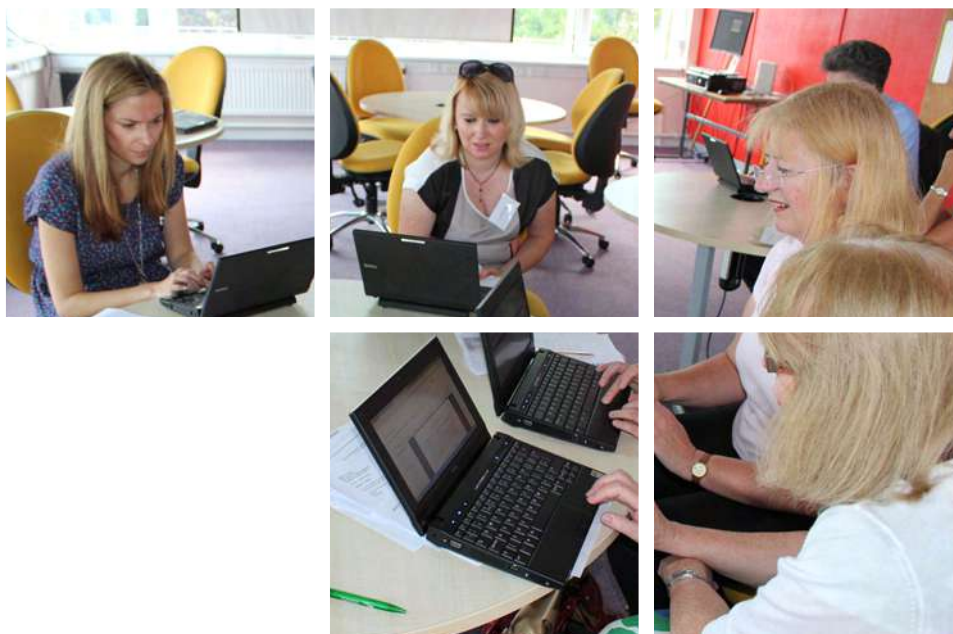
CILIP Wales Conference 2012

Once again the annual Welsh Libraries conference in May offered an excellent opportunity to meet colleagues active in libraries across all sectors in Wales. The theme was leadership and the programme included a keynote presentation from Janet Peters on collaboration within WHELF.

Academic Marketing Day 2012

CyMAL supported an Academic Marketing Day on 27 July. This free training event included a session on how the academic sector could become more involved in the national marketing strand and in Libraries Inspire over the next few years. Grants were also available this year for reader development and information literacy activities in academic libraries.

WHELF: Business and People

WHELF meetings

WHELF meets four times a year. Twice at Gregynog, the University of Wales conference centre where an evening meeting is followed by a morning seminar; and twice via videoconference.

6-7 October 2011 at Gregynog
2 February 2012 via videoconference
3-4 May 2012 at Gregynog
3 July 2012 via videoconference

WHELF Business Group

Responsible for the WHELF action plan and communication plan, the Business Group met four times this year, ahead of the full WHELF meetings.

Membership for 2011/12:
Chair: Janet Peters, Cardiff University (until May 2012)
Chair: Sue Hodges, Bangor University (from July 2012)

Andrew Green, National Library of Wales (WHELF Chair)
Rebecca Davies, Aberystwyth University (WHELF Treasurer)
Sue Mace, WHELF Development Officer
Mark Hughes, Swansea University
Paul Jeorrett, Glyndŵr University
Sally Wilkinson, University of Wales Trinity Saint David (until February 2012)
Emma Adamson, Cardiff Metropolitan University (from May 2012)

WHELF Action Plan

The 2011-2013 Action Plan for WHELF is available on the website: http://whelf.wordpress.com/

People

Our thanks to Janet Peters who has chaired the WHELF Business Group for the last three years with great energy, knowledge, experience and commitment. Janet has now been elected as Chair of the RLUK Board for which we offer our congratulations.

We said farewell to Sally Wilkinson, Head of Learning Resources at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David … but also congratulations as she took up her new post with Cranfield University as Head of the Barrington Library at the Defence Academy. Sally has been a hardworking member of the WHELF Business Group for a number of years and will be very much missed by us all.

Wendy Xerri

In her place we welcomed Wendy Xerri, Director of Knowledge and Information at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David.

Sue Hodges

Sue Hodges arrived in Bangor as University Librarian and shortly afterwards took on the role of Chair of the WHELF Business Group. We wish Sue well in both roles. Sue was formerly Head of Learning and Research Support and part of the Library Leadership Team at the University of Salford.

A warm welcome to another new member of the WHELF Business Group, Emma Adamson, Head of Library Services at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

Julie Hart

Congratulations to Julie Hart who has been appointed to the position of Assistant Director for Library Services at Aberystwyth University.

Emma Harrison

Congratulations to Emma Harrison, Information Librarian for Glamorgan Business School, who reached Everest Base Camp with 'Welsh Women Walking' and Richard Parks (of '737 Challenge' fame; former Wales international rugby player) in May. The trek raised £30,000 for Marie Curie Cancer Care and Tŷ Hafan.

In November, Huw Lewis, Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage, announced the appointment of Sir Deian Hopkin as the President of the National Library of Wales. Andrew Green said: "The staff of the National Library are delighted with the appointment of Sir Deian Hopkin as our new President. We look forward to working closely with him in his new role in taking the Library forward and promoting its services, for the benefit of Wales and its people."

Grants and Funding

WHELF made a number of successful bids for funding this year:

CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales
Sharing a Library Management System: research, scoping and specification study.

CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales
Walk-in access to electronic resources in Welsh academic libraries.
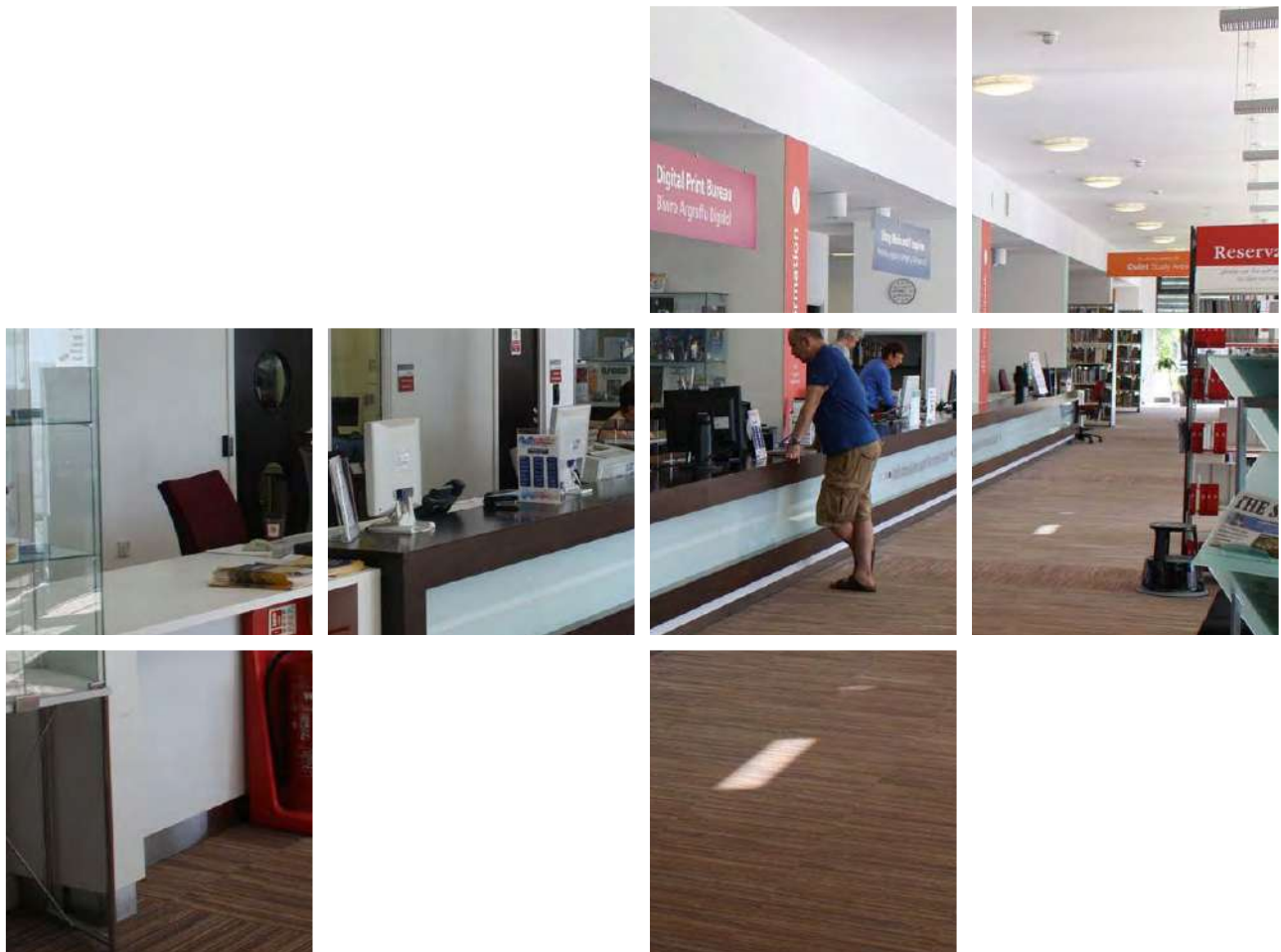
CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales
Collections Wales – mapping the printed and digital heritage of Wales to improve access.

JISC
The Welsh Experience of World War One 1914-1918

JISC
Shared LMS: Business Case Evaluation.

Consultations

WHELF received invitations to respond to consultations and reports. Responses were submitted to:
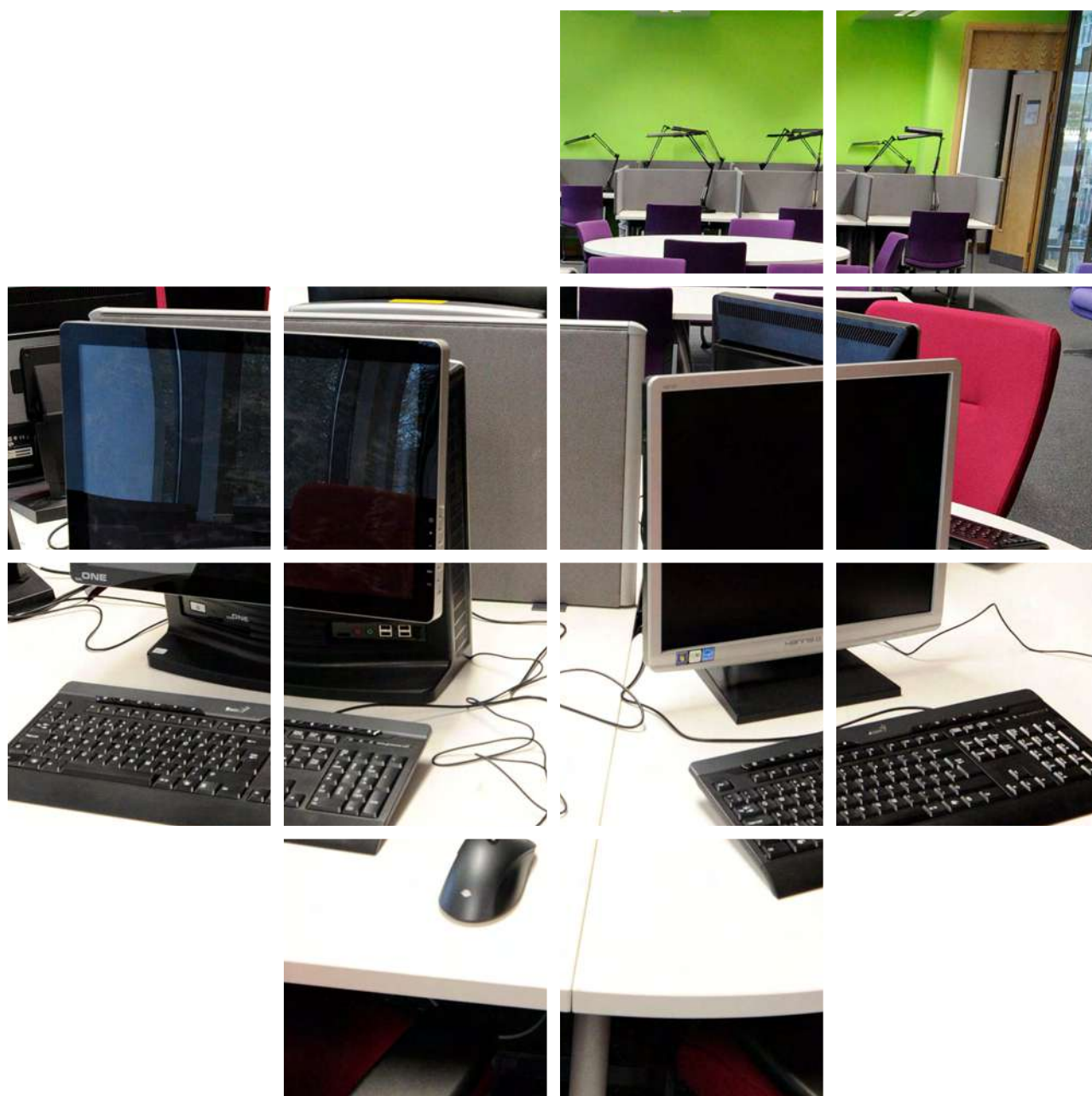
CyMAL: Museums Archives and Libraries Wales
Libraries Inspire Draft Delivery Plan for 2012/13.

HEFCW
Annual Public Meeting on 21 October 2011.

HEFCW
Future Structure of Universities in Wales.

Representation

WHELF members are represented on a wide range of national and UK organisations. These include:

Academic and Research Libraries Group (ARLG) Conference Organising Group
Paul Jeorrett, Glyndŵr University

AWHILES – the All-Wales Health Information and Libraries Extension Service
Janet Peters, Cardiff University

BIC / CILIP RFID in Libraries Group
Mark Hughes, Swansea University

British Library Advisory Council
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales; Janet Peters, Cardiff University (from June 2012)

CILIP Wales Executive Committee
Rebecca Davies, Aberystwyth University; Andrew Green, National Library of Wales; Paul Jeorrett, Glyndŵr University

CyMAL Advisory Council
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales; David Learmont, Bangor University

CyMAL Libraries Inspire Advisory Group
Julie Hart, Aberystwyth University; Anne Harvey, Swansea Metropolitan University

CyMAL Libraries Inspire Marketing Advisory Group
Sue Mace, WHELF

HEWIT: Higher Education Wales Information Technology Forum
Rebecca Davies, Aberystwyth University

JISC Collections Stakeholder Group
Jeremy Atkinson, University of Glamorgan

JISC Resource Discovery Taskforce
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales

Joint Committee on Legal Deposit
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales

Legal Deposit Libraries Committee (Chair, Implementation Group)
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales

North Wales Library Partnership
Sue Hodges, Bangor University; Paul Jeorrett, Glyndŵr University

Research Libraries UK Executive Board
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales; Janet Peters, Cardiff University (Chair from March 2012)

SCONUL Executive Board
Jeremy Atkinson, University of Glamorgan

SCONUL Working Group on Information Literacy
Janet Peters, Cardiff University (represented by Cathie Jackson)

SCONUL Access Steering Group
Sally Wilkinson, University of Wales Trinity Saint David (until May 2012)

SCONUL Events Group
Jeremy Atkinson, University of Glamorgan

SCONUL Quality Assurance Group
Paul Jeorrett, Glyndŵr University

Strategic Content Alliance Wales Forum
Jeremy Atkinson, University of Glamorgan; Andrew Green, National Library of Wales; Janet Peters, Cardiff University

UK Research Reserve Phase 1 and Phase 2
Janet Peters, Cardiff University

University of Wales Press Board
Janet Peters, Cardiff University

Welsh Government: Digital Inclusion Management Board
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales

Welsh Government: Digital Teaching Task and Finish Group
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales

Welsh Government: Digital Wales Advisory Board
Andrew Green, National Library of Wales

Welsh Information Literacy Project Steering Group
Sue Mace, WHELF (until April 2012)

WHEEL (Wales Higher Education Electronic Library) Steering Group
Jeremy Atkinson, University of Glamorgan; Janet Peters, Cardiff University; Paul Riley, Cardiff Metropolitan University); Mieko Yamaguchi, Bangor University; Sue Mace, WHELF

More Information

For more information on any of the topics in this annual report, please contact:

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