

InfoForum

Newsletter of the Ferdinand Postma Library
North-West University : Potchefstroom Campus

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Editorial...

Both the University and the Library experienced major changes over the past decade. At university level the large increase in distance studies poses major challenges, while the Library saw a dramatic increase in its access to electronic information resources. To combine these two trends effectively and to deliver quality service by ensuring access for all students to the latest information sources, is a major challenge.

Until recently access for off-campus students could only be effected through a cumbersome process of providing access codes by telephone. Through the implementation of the EZproxy system matters are considerably simplified. Students can now sign on using their identity number and get transparent access to important databases like [ScienceDirect](#), [EBSCOHost](#), [Emerald Online](#) and the [ISI Web of Science](#).

Tom Larney
Director Library Services



At the annual **Marketing Fair of the GAELIC Consortium** which was held recently, the library walked away with all the awards. This competition decides which library's orientation and marketing strategies has the most impact on their users. The theme of this years competition was 'Customer relationship management to new or elusive library users' placing the focus on the reaching of a specific user group within the library. [Read more about this...](#)



Environment Abstracts (LexisNexis) consists out of journal articles, conference papers and proceedings, and other key sources of information on the environment, covering local and worldwide conditions. Environment scientists and development economists will find this database useful.



Martindale (Micromedex) is back. This database was previously only available on CD-ROM but is now also available via the Internet. It consists of a wide range of databases tailored to meet the needs of healthcare professionals and include information on drugs, acute care, toxicology, and patient education.



The Library subscribes to LexisNexis Professional for Law students. This is an international full text database and consists of articles, acts and court cases. We pay for every search that is done on the database and would appreciate it if you use it with care. For training/passwords contact Christine at fpbcvb@puk.ac.za



Butterworths changed its interface and web address. The new link is: <http://www2-win4.puk.ac.za/mylnb>. So remember to change your bookmark. Please keep in mind that Butterworths is only available via the Intranet. For training in the use of the new interface contact Christine at fpbcvb@puk.ac.za.



Do you want to know what the impact factor of a specific journal is?

Journal Citation Reports (JCR) is now available via ISI Web of Knowledge. A link to this database appears on the library's web page under the heading "Journals" and "Impact factors". Please contact your [subject librarian](#) for more information.



Open Access web sites provides free and global access to peer-reviewed, mainly full text, scientific information.



Where can I study peacefully in the library?

An opinion poll was recently taken by the library to investigate students needs regarding study areas. [More about this ...](#)



When do I know if a journal is accredited? What does the law say about accreditation?

[Read more about this topic ...](#)



The following reference work is available

via the web: [Elektroniese WAT](#).

The Library has two training facilities namely, [Besembos](#) and [Tarentaal](#). Personnel and students can book these facilities at the Information desk in the library, or by phoning 299 2802.

A democratic society depends upon an informed and educated citizenry. (Thomas Jefferson, 1743-1826)

[Previous editions](#)

Gaelic and Friends Marketing Fair



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Study areas in the Ferdiand Postma Library: Potchefstroom Campus

During the second term the library distributed a questionnaire to library users to identify user patterns, needs and recommendations regarding study areas.

Results from this poll clearly showed that students have a need for a completely quiet area for study as well as the normal study areas and discussion rooms.

The library decided on the basis of this poll to divide the study areas as follows:



2nd Floor. The "GLASKAS", i.e. the law reading room, will become a study area where complete silence must be kept.



2nd Floor. The journal reading room, where the Reserve section is kept, may be used by groups. Students may converse here with each other on assignments.



1st Floor. The study area on the first floor on the north site of the book shelves will also become a completely quiet study area.

The rest of the study areas may be seen as reading areas where the normal guidelines for library use will be upheld.

CELLPHONES must be switched off in all the study areas unless you change your ring tone to "silent".

NO CELLPHONES are allowed to ring in study areas. Library users are not allowed to answer the phones in a study area.

If you need to answer a phone call, you must leave the study area and answer the call in one of the lounges or move to the library's entrance hall.





