Library buildings Library buildings



continued from page 32

Some of the positive comments from students include:

Really good. I spend more time in the library that I used to. Modern. More space. More books.

More comfortable & quieter. More space.

Huge amounts of material. Comfy chairs.

Really modern. Cool design.

Better location.

The old library was run-down, flat and box-like. Like the couches. User friendly.

Well laid-out. Good facilities. Car parking is closer to the library than the car parks at other WA universities.

I like the outdoor library area. Unique.

Dan Archibald Manager, Library Services Edith Cowan University d.archibald@ecu.edu.au

Learning Hubs at University of Tasmania

The University of Tasmania Library opened two learning hubs in April 2005. These exciting spaces provide a range of study environments for students. There are rooms which students can book for group study. There are informal areas for group work,

and study spaces for individual work. In the Morris Miller Library Hub there are study areas with lovely views of the River Derwent. The wireless network allows students to use their laptops and link in to the university network.

Libraries are evolving from static centres of knowledge storage to dynamic places of learning

Hub users were surveyed to gather initial impressions of the new hubs. Results indicated that students approved of the style, functionality and comfort.

Crawford Shurman Architects received an award from the Royal Australian Institute of Architects (RAIA), Tasmanian Division, for the hubs, while Karryn Irwin, interior designer, was awarded the Sykes 06 Overall Design Excellence Award from the Laminex Group.

Following on this success, three more satellite hubs were developed, in the Centre for the Arts and Life Sciences in Hobart and the Sir Raymond Ferrall Centre in Launceston. We have developed this concept even more widely at the Rural Clinical

'Libraries are evolving from static centres of knowledge storage

School in Burnie and the School of Architecture at Inveresk; a further hub is being built within the Cradle Coast Campus at Burnie, and one is planned as part of the colocated medical building in the centre of Hobart.

These learning hubs have provided students with spaces to meet and study in a comfortable environment with access to online facilities. As the jury for the RAIA award said,

to dynamic places of learning'.

Linda Luther University Librarian linda.luther@utas.edu.au





