

THE LIBRARY AS DIGITORIUM: NEW MODES OF INFORMATION CREATION, DISTRIBUTION AND ACCESS

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Abstract

Libraries have always been creators or publishers of information. Digital technology, combined with library expertise in bibliographic control, distribution and access, has provided new opportunities for libraries to create, or publish, a wider range of material in support of teaching, learning and research. Monash University Library has a tradition as an early adopter of new technologies, and is recognised in Australia as having been at the forefront of the digital revolution. Over the past five years it has introduced a number of projects and strategies designed to push the door open in support of more effective and creative learning and teaching at Monash University, which is Australia's largest university. More recent initiatives are specifically intended to support Monash University's scholarly endeavours, and to work towards the transformation of scholarly communication. This paper provides details of a number of these initiatives, and identifies some useful overseas models, as well as immediate challenges and opportunities for more advances through greater institutional collaboration.