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Key Dates

1. Revised library operating hours
2. Access Engineering Trial – 4th August – 4th October 2021.

New Arrivals

The Library continues to add quality, relevant and exciting new resources to its collections.

[Click Here to View New Arrivals](#)

Message from the Pro Vice Chancellor Learning & Teaching - Professor Lisa Harrison.



I am delighted to take the opportunity to write this foreword for the library newsletter. I'd like to start by thanking all Library staff for their commitment to students, researchers and staff during lock down. Recent months have undoubtedly posed a challenge for those who relish immersing themselves in the campus environment, and I know that the FNU Library teams have worked tirelessly to provide high levels of online support.

When asked to contribute to this newsletter, I took a few moments to reflect on my days as a PhD student (at the University of Plymouth, UK). I would set aside an afternoon every month to scour the latest volumes of political science journals to keep abreast of the latest research on electoral systems and European political parties. Whilst a necessity at the time, we are fortunate to have digitally enabled and speedy access to an impressive range of databases, repositories and e-resources – an essential service in the contemporary world of education.

As we prepare to return, we can also reflect on the innovative learning practices which are proliferating. An important takeaway from recent disruption is how we have all adapted to academic life in a flexible and personalised way. Let's make time in our busy days to share some good practice, and ensure that we embrace the diverse ways of learning which support an inclusive Library Service.

Ms. Sushila Lal – Senior Librarian E-Learning & Engagement Services Emergency Remote Library Instruction: A Matter of Equity During a Pandemic

During the second phase of the Covid -19 pandemic 2021, emergency remote teaching became the norm for education institutions, including Fiji National University. Suddenly, the User Engagement Librarians were once again entrusted with transferring face-to-face services to e-resources and online services. The online mandate meant deciding between one-to-one reference services and group sessions for instruction responsibilities, learning new technologies, and tools for active learning and teaching. The UEL's, to provide instructional sessions needed a broader understanding of digital literacies and what it looked like in practice when dealing with emergency remote teaching to a diverse university community. Some examples that the section librarians used during this challenging time were robust marketing to create library

services awareness amongst users by advertising via FNUPR and College email communications, contacting students individually, and also the Student Association leaders of each College, creating Viber groups for classes to engage them for information literacy sessions. Academic staff were also contacted one to one or in group sessions such as CRC for information literacy and research skills training. Collaboration with ICT staff and database vendors to provide technical assistance to get all the subscribed e-resources available online to access remotely via EZproxy. Examining instruction librarians' ongoing response to the pandemic, while challenging, helped the section become more emergency-responsive and better able to meet the needs of diverse users of students and staff.



Experience of User Engagement Team working from Home

Ms. Eleni Bai - User Engagement Librarian



At first, I thought working from home was going to make my life easier, but I was wrong. It can be harmful psychologically. Humans are social creatures and working without seeing anyone can make one feel cut off. I have come to realize that whether you're working remotely for one month or more, it's important to ensure that you are set up to be productive. This includes having a

designated workspace with the right technology, ways of dealing with kids, pets and other potential disruptions and a workable schedule you can stick to and ways to connect with others. The Covid-19 crisis has acted as an inflection point, throwing into sharp relief the many benefits of digital libraries. Looking ahead I am confident that the use of e-libraries will continue to grow exponentially. This growth will be driven by immediate demands and global trends such as the explosion in smartphone penetration, the ownership of ICT based reading devices, and the now entrenched habit of seeking information online. I understand how difficult this must be, but it's important to remember that none of us is alone. No matter how difficult or scary and alone one feels things can only get better and we look forward to better and effective library services.

Ms. Pritika Chand - User Engagement Librarian

Online Education is globally increasing in the world today. The students at the Fiji National University are seeking online learning to broaden their knowledge and skills where remote librarians and library resources are available to guide them along. Working remotely from home posed a challenge to User Engagement Librarians. During these uncertain times, a number of distractions was there but we found new ways to stay connected, move forward and stay productive. We have always emphasized assisting students in developing their skills and knowledge. However, we concentrated on fulfilling the purpose, goals, and objectives by delivering electronic resources to meet the need for distance learning students through online education. User Engagement Librarian plays an important role, during this pandemic we assisted locating resources for assignments and helped with searching the information, taught on how to use resources supporting their educational needs. The fact today is that the number of online students is rapidly growing where learners find

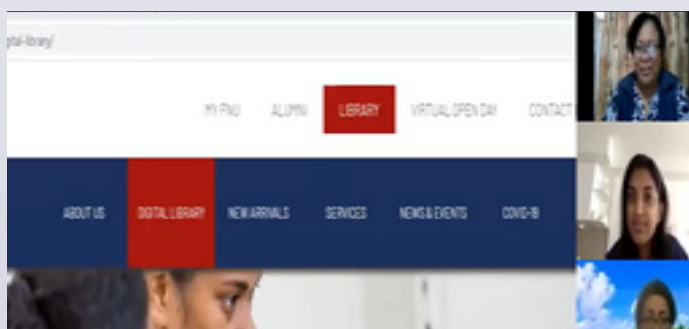


difficulty in suitable online resources. They rely more on the Internet and familiar search engines for research.

Libraries today have developed a program of Information Literacy, which allows students to access using their Moodle login to use the resources found on Library Website. Students become more aware of the resources accessible to them as they interact with the embedded librarian and feel more comfortable using them for research purposes. To satisfy the demands of students, UELs must create new skills and competencies. Librarians must challenge themselves, use adaptive technology professionally, and continue to build a better future by teaching information literacy skills and providing

courses for evaluating information. The purpose is to engage with people, effectively provide resources, and provide excellent customer service to our stakeholders. **“Experience Your Online Search Using Library Website – The Greatest Asset”**

Ms. Luisa Fapiano - User Engagement Librarian: Persevering with Endurance

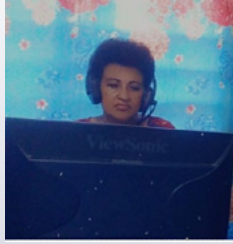


Librarians are relationship builders. Extending the role of User Engagement Librarians online perceives the importance of resource sharing and resource finding using Digital Libraries provided by the FNU library department. The occurring event is the tutoring of students and staff for Information

Literacy Education where students and staff are taught how to use the databases for research purposes. It takes a lot of patience to overcome challenges met during tutorials with the fluctuation of the internet. Sessions are conducted in large groups or on a one-to-one basis as per the request received. Frequently 'Ask a Librarian', service has been received well with queries and assistance is dealt within a timely manner. Tailored guides for databases were prepared for more effective learning that leads to the preparation of videos to up-build students further. Collaboration for these hard times has considerably altered the way of conducting library services where flexible hours are incorporated to address the need of students and staff acquiring knowledge for the use of Medical Databases. Adjusting conditions to new environment and facing uncertainty in the future can particularly be tough to stay upbeat. **“Great things are done by a series of small things brought together” – Vincent Van Gogh**

Susana Vadei - User Engagement Librarian: My Unforgettable Ordeal with Covid

Working online for me was a new experience because I was more comfortable with face-to-face interaction. However, I had to make it work and adapt to it. Working from home was a challenge because I had to balance work with my family responsibilities, and I needed to motivate myself to remain focused. Challenges faced were creating a workspace for myself where there was good internet connectivity and minimum disturbance from family members especially children and neighbors. Furthermore, the issues faced with the computer which affected my work were delays of emails received, being unable to connect to meetings, webinars so I resorted to my mobile and my car to connect from. Then, the grip of Covid on my life was the greatest challenge which I had to overcome in order



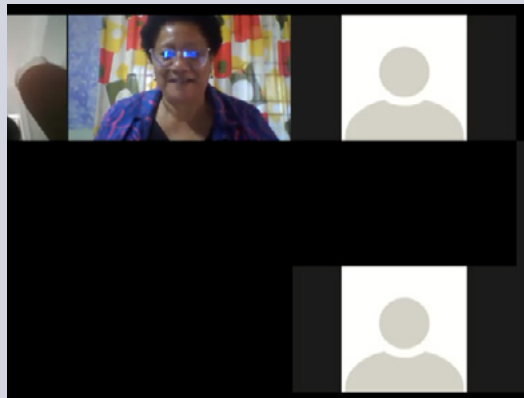
to live. I was confined in my bedroom for a month which really affected my work because the recovery process had been slow. Challenges faced were overcome by creating a workspace for myself where I could connect to the internet with minimum disturbance. I have managed to get a modem and headphones for myself which has given me better internet connectivity.

My computer has been replaced. Although I am still facing some challenging situations, I believe I can overcome them. I work odd hours to assist students or to complete my work or to meet deadlines. Having been through these challenges I believe that I can adapt to any situation and changes, and during this phase I have become a better person. **"Never Give-up All Good Things Are Not Easy to Achieve"**

Ms. Titilia Palako - User Engagement Librarian: Working Online with Digital Library

Digital library provided a gateway for continuity of access to e-Resources content during the nationwide covid-19 lockdown. Books are no longer the primary source of information. Information is now available in a multitude of sources, variety of forms and can be accessed in different ways. The digital platform provides that access. Enabling communication tools like smart phone, tablets and other devices with user data are now compelling tools for their convenience. A solution to geographic location access barriers. The present trends in digital library paves the way to explore more on the digital platform for expeditious service. Digital library and online services are not new concepts. It has made ways for innovative services such as creating awareness and providing training for library user community. Technology plays a vital role. The opportunities offered by digital

library platform hold the promise of becoming key technologies for knowledge creation and management in the future.



Library Opening Hours

Opening hours differs according to the academic calendar to give our students maximum access to library. You can find the opening hours on our website:

[Click Here for Opening Hours](#)

Send in a Question

You can send us your questions anytime and we will be happy to assist you with your questions in best possible ways.

[Click Here to Send Enquiries](#)

Talk to a Librarian

Talk to a library staff or a librarian who knows your subject area by calling or emailing to discuss your needs with them. They'll answer your questions or refer you to a specialist

[Click Here for Librarians](#)

User Oriented Services

1. [Digital Library](#)
2. [Turn-it-In](#)
3. [EndNote](#)
4. [Scopus](#)
5. [Scival](#)

Contact Information



For General Enquiries:

Email: fnulibrary@fnu.ac.fj | Phone: 339 4000 Ext. 2808



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