

MONASH
UNIVERSITY
LIBRARY

ANNUAL REPORT
2018

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I am pleased to present the Monash University Library 2018 Annual Report.

It was a year of significant achievements as well as a year of review and consolidation. This report highlights key outcomes from the themes, strategies and initiatives in the Library's annual plan.

Since commencing at the University in March 2018, I have consulted widely with our various stakeholders. These consultations and engagement opportunities have reinforced one theme in particular: the Library is a well-resourced, well-regarded part of the University. It is full of talent and potential, and this is a credit to all Library staff.

My conversations with members of the Monash community have also reinforced the need for the Library to continually adapt and improve in a rapidly changing information world and higher education environment.

Over the next couple of years, we will focus on developing and delivering improvements to the user experience in both our physical and online Library environments. We will seek to remove access barriers to the rich collections of scholarly resources that we provide on behalf of the University. And we will seek to better articulate the services we provide in support of the University's teaching and research priorities.

I look forward to continuing the strong partnership between the Library and the faculties, centres, institutes, and other areas across the University.

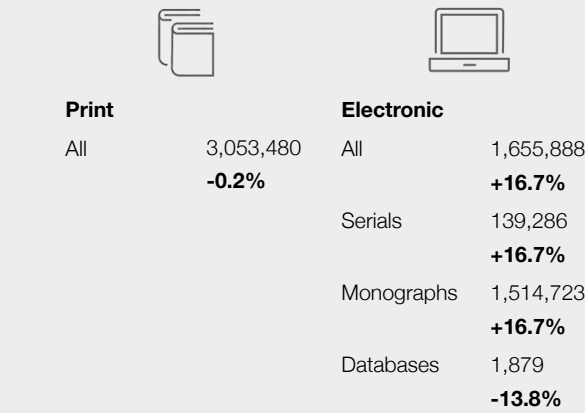


Robert Gerrity
University Librarian

Fast Facts

Collections

4,709,368 +5.2%
Total collections

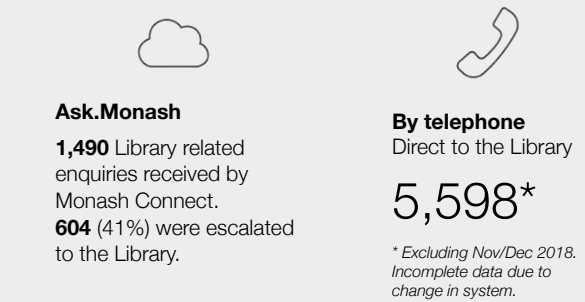


Total loans and renewals
758,034
+5.7%

eResource downloads
from COUNTER compliant vendors



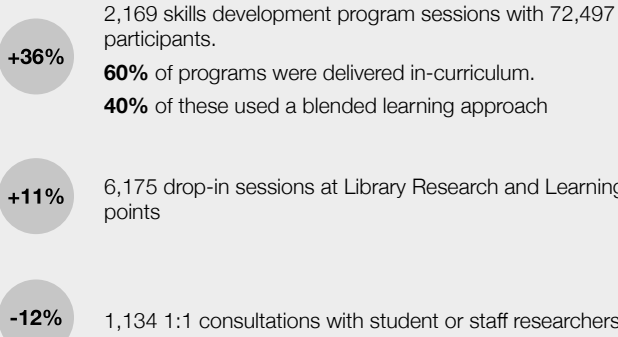
Enquiries



Visits



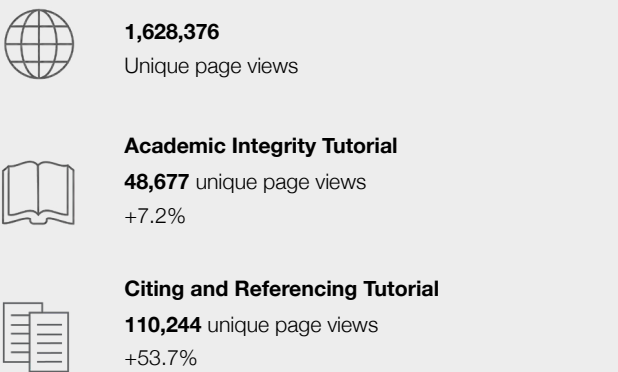
Research and Learning



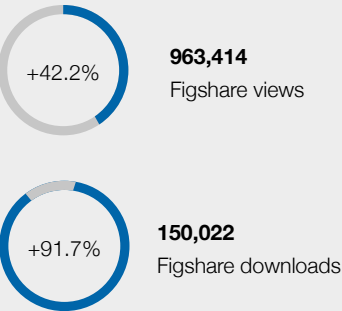
Library-created eLearning resources



Research and Learning Online



Research Repository accesses



Relevant information resources

Enhance the relevance of information resources

Acquiring and digitising unique manuscript fragments

The Library's Special Collections now include more than one hundred fragments from the Bischoff collection of medieval manuscripts and early printed books from the twelfth to sixteenth centuries. Key pieces in the valuable collection have been digitised.

Students and researchers in fields including medieval studies, palaeography, the history of printing, the development of the English language and more, can access the manuscript and early book fragments.

Digitising and making collections freely available online through HathiTrust

Monash University joined HathiTrust, a global partnership of major research institutions and libraries working towards ensuring that the cultural record is preserved and accessible long into the future. HathiTrust holds the largest set of digitised books managed by the academic, research, and library community. The global network offers an unprecedented opportunity to steward the cultural record through increasingly interdependent work that develops capacity and sparks innovation.



There is a sense of wonder that is stimulated by being in the presence of ancient things, especially when you can actually touch them, and engage all your senses in the experience and the analysis. It's such a thrill to be able to share this kind of experience with undergraduates more broadly.

Dr Kathleen Neal
Lecturer in History



Develop discovery and access pathways to information

New Library Search interface

The new Search provides functionality to improve the user's experience of finding Library resources. The beta version released at the beginning of December 2018 followed workshops and user-testing by students and others.

We welcomed user feedback as we continued to develop the new version before going live in February 2019.



It's more interactive than the old one.

Monash student

Everything seems to be much more clearly defined, and less confusing. I also think the new pop-up window makes more sense than the old system.

Monash student

Text and data mining

As a University leader in information storage and retrieval, the Library developed a [Text and Data mining guide](#), a tool for researchers who are interested in this emerging data source.

Researchers can use text and data mining to organise and expose new relationships between data that cannot be found when you run a typical database search.

Researchers can also benefit from the Library's experience in negotiating with database vendors, based on established relationships and an expert understanding of licence and copyright conditions.

The Library is currently designing a process for the storage and reuse of these datasets.



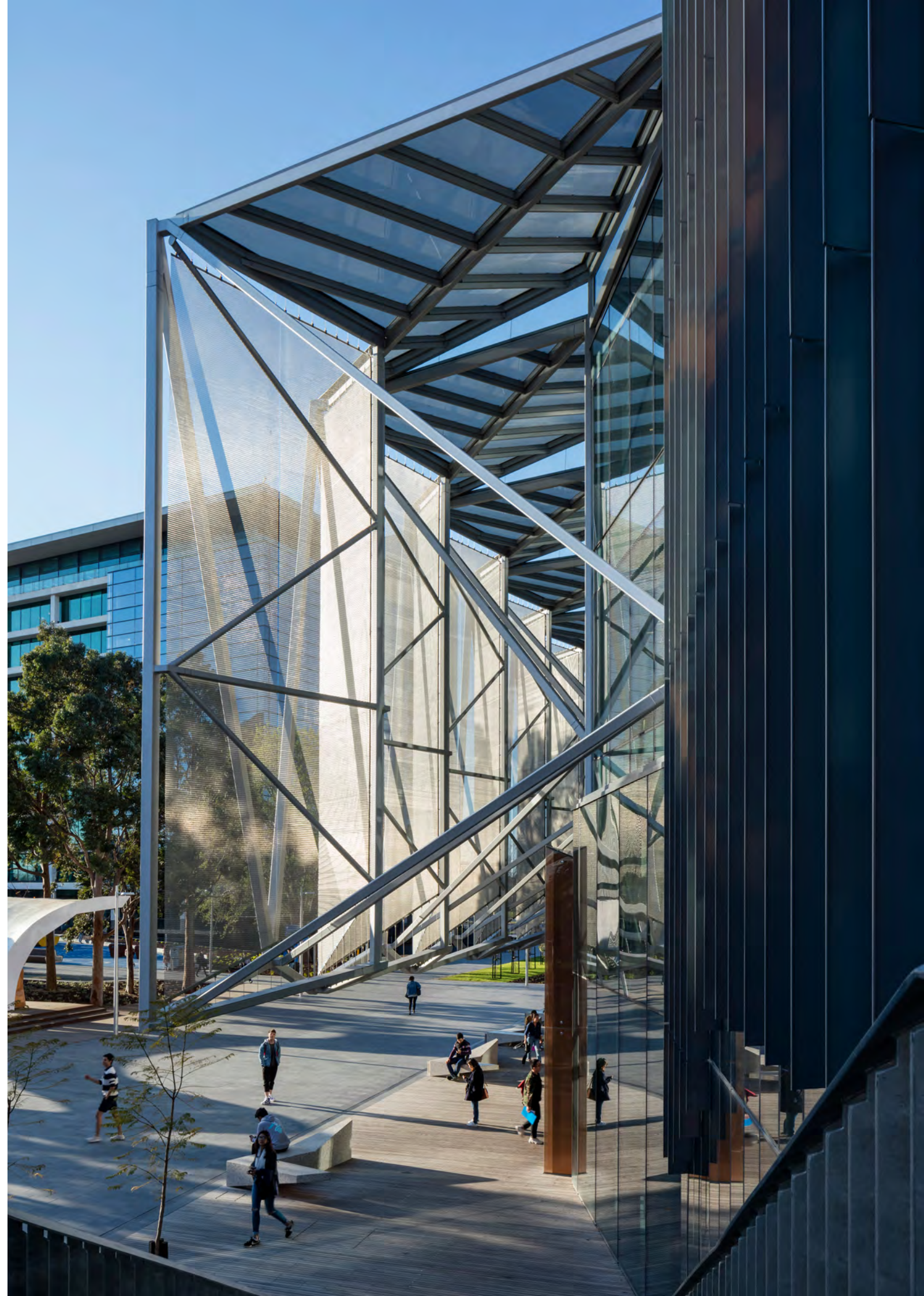
Acquiring in-copyright content of the Austlit data [set] would improve prospective ARC grant applications in the future.

Dr Simon Musgrave
Faculty of Arts

Conducive learning and research environments

*The iconic shadehouse structure of the Caulfield
Library designed by John Wardle Architects*

Photo: Dianna Snape



Enhance the physical library environment

Post-occupancy evaluation

Following completion of the Matheson and Caulfield Library refurbishments in 2017, an evaluation enabled the Library to assess whether expectations by users (students and staff) have been met, and whether the new features are performing well. The study drew data from past user surveys, post-refurbishment feedback, and fresh insights from recent user experience exercises, and analysed these against the rationale and objectives of both refurbishment projects.

The findings recognised improvements in the user experience, brought out areas that still need improvement, and identified future enhancements. The learnings will enable the Library to better prepare for future refurbishments at other libraries, and continue to represent best practice in design and functionality in order to provide the right environments for users in our next-generation libraries.



I use both Matheson and Caulfield libraries. The renovations have made them a much more enjoyable environment to study. The natural light makes a big difference.

Monash student

Photo: Dianna Snape

Enhance the online library environment

Website evaluation

A website usability study commissioned by the Library assessed how our users experience the Library site in terms of their ability to find core information, use the site from different types of devices, and understand Library content and services. It is the first step in developing and implementing a plan to re-engineer the Library’s web presence to align with leading user-centred design practice.

Research lifecycle

The [Research Lifecycle](#) concept has been designed to showcase the services and information that the Library and other parts of the University make available to researchers, within a clear model. The Lifecycle is one of the outcomes of the work of a number of Library staff under the Researcher Engagement project.





Capability building for learning and research

Facilitate learning, research and employability skills development

Academic Integrity tutorial

Library staff led by our Digital Learning and Teaching team redeveloped the Academic Integrity tutorial in collaboration with staff and students across the University. It was designed to help students gain an understanding of their ethical responsibilities in current and future academic and work settings.

The three interactive modules bring together content regarding the fundamental principles, guidelines, and resources related to academic integrity policies and practices relevant to students. Quizzes at the end of each module allow students to test their understanding.

The online tutorial is available from the [Research and Learning Online website](#) and via Moodle.



The Academic Integrity tutorial is an example of the expertise, collaboration and outreach that our Library colleagues consistently demonstrate, in their mission to inspire and enable the Monash University community.

Professor Sue Elliott
Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education) and
Senior Vice President

Inclusive Teaching toolkit

The [toolkit](#) is a resource developed by Library staff to enhance their understanding and approaches to teaching inclusively and help all students succeed at university. It may also be used by professional staff in other areas of the University involved in teaching, as well as lecturers, educational designers and curriculum creators.



When teaching staff made an effort to include me or others, I felt elated because someone actually took the time to care. It made the university a more welcoming and positive environment and energised me to attend classes and do my work.

Monash student

Inclusive teaching is making sure that every student in the classroom regardless of their individual needs and circumstances isn't disadvantaged in any way. Everyone is included and everyone actually benefits equally.

Library staff member

Enable effective research practice for enhanced impact

Data Fluency Community of Practice

Data Fluency is a cross-disciplinary initiative by Monash University Library and the Bioinformatics Platform aiming to build researcher capability to work with research data.

The launch was a first step towards building a community of passionate, like-minded Monash researchers, graduate researchers and professional staff, growing and sharing expertise across disciplines to enhance knowledge and capability.

Novices, experts and those in-between can become part of the community and take advantage of skill development workshops, weekly drop-in sessions, events and resources for staff and students. Over 500 people were trained in 2018.



Research today has made it necessary for researchers and professionals to be able to understand, write code and interact in the digital enquiry space. Data Fluency is a welcome initiative that will empower our researchers to effectively communicate their research and ideas.

Professor Marc Parlange
Provost and Senior Vice-President



Enhanced Monash University impact and reputation

Maximise the impact of Monash research

Open Access initiative

The Library obtained endorsement from the University's Research Committee for the general principles outlined in the Open Access (OA) discussion paper developed in collaboration with stakeholders across the university.

The primary publication advice offered by Monash to its researchers has been to publish in the best and most appropriate journal in their field, regardless of OA implications. Monash discourages the payment of Author Publication Charges if they are not required.

Over the last ten years governments and funders including Australian Research Council (ARC) and National Health and Medical Research Council have started requiring OA, that is, that publicly funded research outputs be made openly available. The ARC is now collecting data on the uptake of this through Excellence in Research for Australia reporting, and some philanthropic and other funders are penalising failure to comply.

The Library and the Office of the Vice-Provost (Faculty and Graduate Affairs) will work together to update policies and procedures for approval and promulgation.

Linked data initiatives

In 2018 the Library's Metadata and Systems teams undertook a joint project to investigate the potential impact of updated standards and frameworks on the evolution of Library metadata. Examples include the Resource Description and Access, (rda-rsc.org), Resource Description Framework (w3.org/RDF), Bibliographic Framework Initiative (loc.gov/bibframe) and Linked Data (linkeddata.org).

Project outcomes include improved shared understanding of the metadata infrastructure and systems behind a linked data ecology, and the development of a linked data sandpit for Library staff to explore and build their skills.

Contribute to scholarly communication and debate

Publishing success

Monash University Publishing had its most successful year ever in 2018, in terms of both book sales and presence in the media.

Three books were cited in *Australian Book Review* in its end of year wrap-up feature 'the best books of 2018'.

- [*Half the Perfect World: Writers Dreamers and Drifters in Hydra 1955-1964*](#), by Perth writers Paul Genoni and Tanya Dalziell
- [*Reason and Lovelessness: Essays, Encounters, Reviews 1980-2017*](#), a collection of writing, poetry and reviews by Barry Hill
- [*Dunera Lives: A Visual History*](#) by Ken Inglis, Seumas Spark and Jay Winter with Carol Bunyan.



By drawing on a rich archive of writing and photography from a plethora of first hand sources, Paul Genoni and Tanya Dalziell have crafted a superb book that examines the dynamics of a group of singular individuals in a particular time and place.

Robert Clarke on *Half the Perfect World*
The Sydney Morning Herald

Deliver enriching public programs and outreach

Ada Booth Research Fellows

Three international scholars visited Monash University as recipients of an [Ada Booth Research Fellowship](#) in Slavic Studies and each presented their research at a public talk at the Monash Conference Centre in November.

The Ada Booth Research Fellowships aim to promote the use of the Library's Slavic collection and to support and strengthen the Slavic Studies community in Australia by funding research, through a benefaction from the late Ada Phyllis Booth (1921-2008), physicist and lecturer at the University of Melbourne.

Celebrating Indigenous Voices

A highlight of the year was the Library's celebration of [Indigenous Voices](#) in three forms: print, digital and art. Each form explored an aspect of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history, language and culture.

The *Indigenous Rights: Protest in Print* Special Collections exhibition showcased the history and creativity of Indigenous communities in print.

Indigenous Stories and Languages is a 3D animation-based digital exhibition celebrating research and education activities undertaken by the Monash Indigenous Studies Centre to record the past, preserve the present, and protect Indigenous languages and knowledge into the future.

Kulata Tjuta (2012-2014), the art installation above the atrium at Matheson Library, translates in English to 'spears in flight'. The work comprises 277 hand-carved spears made by a group of Amata men in South Australia working with Jonathan Jones, a Wiradjuri/Kamilaroi artist based in Sydney.

The Indigenous Voices program was a collaboration between the Library and partners: Monash Country Lines Archive, Monash Indigenous Studies Centre, Yulendj Indigenous Engagement Unit, Monash University Museum of Art and State Library of Victoria.



The multitude of stories told through this exhibition powerfully highlights the strength and spirit of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, persevering through hardship and advocating for justice.

Professor Jacinta Elston
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous)





Remembering Sir John Monash

A special event hosted by the Library commemorated the centenary of Sir John being knighted by King George V in France on 12 August 1918. Led by the Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences, the event was attended by Professor Margaret Gardner, Vice-Chancellor and President; Mr Ted Baillieu, chair of the Victorian Anzac Centenary Committee; and descendants of Sir John.

Artefacts belonging to Sir John were unveiled in a private viewing for some of his descendants. The University Archives and the Library worked together to display the items in the Special Collections Reading Room at the Sir Louis Matheson Library, including several books owned by Sir John that are part of the Special Collections.

The Library digitised the three certificates signed by King George V pertaining to Sir John's knighthood to ensure that these fragile documents can be shared and preserved.



It's amazing for us to see these documents, and it's marvellous to see them kept in such good condition.

Professor Bill Charman
Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy and
Pharmaceutical Science

Vice-Chancellor Professor Margaret Gardner, Professor Bill Charman, and Mr Andrew McIntosh with Sir John Monash's sword.



Our enablers

Build a contemporary professional workforce

Reinvigorating the Library Capability Framework

The Library Capability Framework was reviewed by staff in a series of workshops to enable discussion and practical application to their roles and development goals.

Outcomes include refreshed resources containing recommended learning activities which reinforce the 70:20:10 learning model for developing capability. The approach taken by the Library has been recommended by Monash Talent, Equity & Development and shared with other University divisions for application.

Enhanced opportunities to learn on-the-job and from others

The Library's in-house peer learning program was refreshed in 2018, with 27 sessions conducted for more than 260 attendees across a range of topics including shorter 'WorkHacks' focused on tools and resources to improve effectiveness.

The Education and Research Community of Practice offers a peer learning and sharing forum to research and learning staff.

Twenty-three Library staff participated in the CAVAL Cross-Institutional Mentoring Program as either mentors or mentees with colleagues from seven other Victorian institutions.

Promote our value to our stakeholders

Strengthening use of evidence and analytics

Library strategic metrics are now available as a series of interactive Tableau dashboards. These visual displays will allow the Library to more clearly communicate its role in the University to stakeholders; similarly, the interactive dashboards will strengthen the Library's capacity to make evidence-based decisions.

Alumni campaign

The Library collaborated with External Relations, Development and Alumni on a campaign to inspire alumni to support their Library and give back to the next generation of students with access to Library programs and resources.

The results of the appeal were encouraging and led to a post-campaign activity where several supporters came for an engaging Library tour and viewing of highlights from the Special Collections.

Demonstrate our industry leadership

Developing contemporary digital skills

The [Digital Skill Development](#) (DSD) framework (Torres et al, 2018) has been developed by Library and other professional and academic staff at Monash to address the explicit, incremental development of contemporary digital skills and practices for collaborating, learning, researching, working, and functioning in society.

A world transformed by technology has brought new considerations for what it means for students to be digitally literate and what might be required to evidence such skills in the curriculum.

The DSD framework addresses this complexity by enabling digital skills and practices and is evidenced by essential outcomes of learning.



Using the Digital Skill Development framework helped students recognise digital skills and understand how they were directly relevant to their assessments. They became more aware of the benefits of using ICT and developed skills they will use in their other units.

Amber McLeod
Director of Pathway Programs,
Faculty of Education

Library staff are members of advisory and leadership groups as follows:

- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) 2020 National Conference Planning Committee
- Australian Evidence Based Practice Librarians’ Institute
- Art Libraries Society Australia and New Zealand (Arlis/ ANZ)
- Asian Library Resources of Australia (ALRA) Committee
- Association of Academic Language and Learning (AALL)
- Australia and New Zealand Rregional Ex Libris Group (ANZREG) Committee
- Australian Law Librarians Association (ALLA) Board
- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) ALIA Students and New Graduates Group
- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Board of Directors
- Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA) Interlibrary Lending Advisory Committee
- Australian Publishers Association Scholarly and Journals Committee

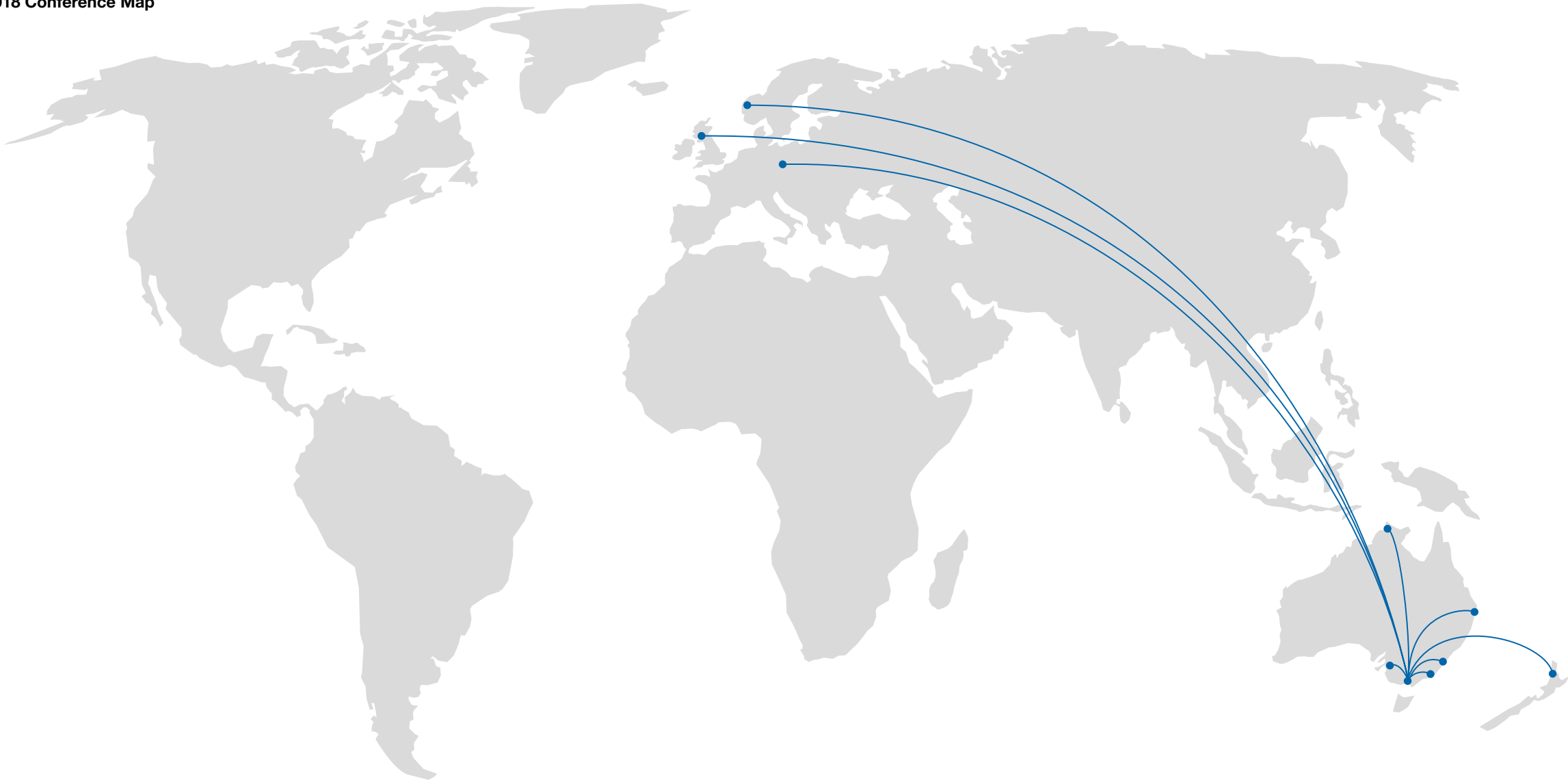
- Bibliographical Society of Australia and New Zealand
- CARM Shared Collection Advisory Committee
- CAVAL Cross-Institutional Library Mentoring Program (CILMP) Reference Group
- CAVAL Customer Services and Collaboration Network
- CAVAL Digital Interest Group
- CAVAL Products and Services Committee
- CAVAL Professional Development Interest Group (PDIG)
- CAVAL Research & Information Group (CRIG)
- CAVAL Research & Information Group (CRIG) Seminar Committee
- Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL)
- Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) Electronic Information Resources Advisory Committee (CEIRAC)
- Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL)/Council of New Zealand University Librarians (CONZUL) Retaining Rights to Research Publications Project

- Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL)/Council of New Zealand University Librarians (CONZUL) Value and Impact Community of Practice
- Elsevier Reseach Data Management Advisory Board
- Federation for the Advancement of Victorian eResearch (FAVeR) Research Data Management Working Group
- Frankston Mornington Peninsula Education Precinct
- International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centres (IAML Australia)
- International Group of Ex Libris Users (IGeLU) Alma Product Working Group
- International Group of Ex Libris Users (IGeLU) Committee
- Libraries Australia Advisory Committee
- Melbourne Rare Books Week Committee
- National Library of Australia Resource Sharing Futures Steering Group
- OL Society Ltd (publishers of Overland)
- ProQuest ANZ Advisory Board

Publications and presentations by library staff are available on Monash.Figshare

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2018 Conference Map



Phone +61 3 9905 5054

Website monash.edu/library

**Postal
address** Monash University Library
40 Exhibition Walk
Monash University
Victoria 3800 Australia