

Site insight : Lohe Memorial Library Luther Seminary

The start of 1998 saw the Lohe Memorial Library embarking on a strategic planning exercise to chart the course of the Library in the next few years. A new mission statement was formulated and goals were set in the three main areas of Information Access, Client Services and Management. In line with this the organisational structure was adapted to create a balance between the custodial approach to the Library as a storehouse of theological knowledge, and a client-centred focus on information usage for study, research and ministry. In line with our strategic plan, all policies will be revised and the Collection Management Policy is currently receiving priority.

The Library faces two particular challenges this year, namely dealing with the space shortage in the present building as well as completing the retrospective cataloguing project which seems to have rolled on from year to year. I am not too pessimistic about the prospects of a new purpose-built library on the seminary campus, despite the enormous cost implications. In terms of the cataloguing, we have set the end of the millennium as a target date for having a fully automated catalogue.

Luther Seminary recently hung its web site in cyberspace and we are pleased that the Library occupies a central place there. We hope to have remote access to our catalogue available within the next twelve months. The address is- www.luthersem.edu.au

Other developments since the beginning of the year include cooperative ventures with the Australian Catholic University in Brisbane and Flinders University in Adelaide. In order to support our Initial Teacher Education Program (ITEP) students at these universities, the John and Margaret Zweck Memorial Library (a branch of Lohe Library) was relocated from Milton to the McAuley Campus of ACU and a number of books have been donated to the Flinders University Library.

On a personal note, I am pleased to say that I have found the ANZTLA fraternity a warm one and as a newcomer to theological libraries I look forward to closer interaction within the ANZTLA fold.

Mark Sutherland
Seminary Librarian

Ilana Cohen is a great detective! She sent this snippet via the ANZTLA-forum :

ANZTLA gets two mentions in the *Specialities* journal (Issue 27 August 1998). The first relating to OPALS being at the ANZTLA conference, the second an outline of ANZTLA as part of a listing of library organisations.