

CRIG: CAVAL Reference Interest Group - May 2006 Forum

The Research Quality Framework (RQF) and possible roles for libraries and librarians

- Date:** Friday 12th May 2006, 1.00pm for 1.15pm start.
Tea and coffee available during this time.
- Venue:** Seminar Room 1, Swanston Library,
RMIT University
Melway ref 579 J7 Building 8, entrance on level 5.
Online map at <http://www.rmit.edu.au/about/maps/city>
Parking and public transport details below.
- RSVP:** Wendy Haszler, wendy.haszler@rmit.edu.au ph. (03) 9925 7779
by Tuesday 2 May (at the latest)
Note: Voicemail is available on Wendy's phone

Program

- 1.15 Welcome and Introduction
Graeme Oke, Victoria University, and Chair of CRIG
- 1.20 *The view from the university***
Professor Gregory Baxter Acting Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Research),
Victoria University
- 1.50 ***The view from the library*** (10 – 15 minutes per speaker)
Panel discussion and questions, including what kinds of measures are important to different disciplines, and what measures there are of research output and quality. We don't have the answers – this session aims to raise awareness of some of the issues.
- Jennifer Warburton, University of Melbourne
Jennifer liaises with the School of Graduate Studies, and will include a demonstration of *Journal Citation Reports*, part of the *Web of Knowledge*
 - Pete Macauley, Deakin University on Education's perspective
Pete is the Faculty Librarian for the Faculty of Education
 - Gayle Whyte, Monash University on the Arts perspective
Gayle is the Subject Librarian for Australian Indigenous Studies, Archaeology, Classics and Politics
 - Cathy Costa, RMIT University on the Business / Law perspective
Cathy liaises with the Business Portfolio's School of Economics, Finance and Marketing
- 3.30 Tea/Coffee Break
- 4.00 Library Tours of the refurbished Swanston Library

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Transport

- **Parking:** Commercial car parks in Cardigan Street, Carlton and LaTrobe Street. Note that street parking around Swanston Street, Cardigan Street and Queensbury Street is usually only for 1 – 2 hours.
- **Public transport:** Train to Melbourne Central Station
<http://www.metlinkmelbourne.com.au/>

Some Preparation

Please come prepared to discuss issues in your area of liaison, or the areas that you manage.

The Research Quality Framework papers are linked from the CAUL page:
<http://www.caul.edu.au/new-info.htm>

- Research Quality Framework: Assessing the quality and impact of research in Australia – Final Advice on the Preferred RQF Model. Department of Education, Science and Training.
- Minister's Media Release (28 March 2006)

Articles of interest:

- Research exercise to be scrapped [by] Donald MacLeod, *Guardian*, Wednesday March 22, 2006 (UK)
<http://education.guardian.co.uk/RAE/story/0,,1737082,00.html>
- see latest comment from NTEU
<http://www.nteu.org.au/news/current/13601>
- Peng Dong, Marie Loh and Adrian Mondry. (2005) The 'impact factor' revisited. *Biomedical Digital Libraries*, 2(7)
<http://www.bio-diglib.com/content/2/1/7>
Abstract: The number of scientific journals has become so large that individuals, institutions and institutional libraries cannot completely store their physical content. In order to prioritize the choice of quality information sources, librarians and scientists are in need of reliable decision aids. The "impact factor" (IF) is the most commonly used assessment aid for deciding which journals should receive a scholarly submission or attention from research readership. It is also an often misunderstood tool. This narrative review explains how the IF is calculated, how bias is introduced into the calculation, which questions the IF can or cannot answer, and how different professional groups can benefit from IF use.

Other CRIG activities

- Join the **CRIG-L list** at <http://www.caval.edu.au/wpr/crig/crigl.html>
- CRIG August Forum: Friday 18 August 2006. Topic and venue to be decided.