

Professional Development: *UQL Cyberschool Update for 2013*

On Monday, 22 April the UQL Cyberschool held its half-day Update. This free, professional development event is run for teacher-librarians, heads of departments including IT, and teachers. This year, attendees heard presentations delivered by UQ practitioners on educational and innovative technology at the UQ Library, and attended demonstrations given by database vendors who showcased new online products.

University Librarian Bob Gerrity welcomed the attendees and introduced the first speaker, Professor Phil Long, Director of the Centre for Educational Innovation and Technology. Professor Long delivered an informative and stimulating session on the development of MOOCS (Massive Open Online Courses). The next speaker, Majella Pugh, Associate Director, Collections and Information Resources, spoke about developments in eBooks at The University of Queensland Library. She also discussed some eBook models for patron-driven acquisition and shared UQ Library's experience with these.

At the conclusion of the presentations attendees broke into groups to attend workshops on various databases of relevance to the school curriculum, including: ESBCO eBook Collections, Britannica Digital Learning, Gale Cengage GVRL (Gale Virtual Reference Library), Library Webs, World Book Online and Warner Books (Infobase). Other database vendors had provided material to distribute to attendees on Aldis (Turnitin), Oxford Online, Project Muse (The John Hopkins Guide to Literary Theory and Criticism), WebLinks, JSTOR and Macquarie Dictionary.

The feedback on the afternoon was very positive and included comments such as "Excellent day – very impressed", "Love coming back to UQ!", "Great sessions – found out a lot of new features of databases", "Very much enjoyed hearing about MOOCS," and "Found the eBook presentation very interesting".

The UQL Cyberschool would like to thank all involved in the event including speakers, presenters, sponsors and UQ Library colleagues. Thank you to the attendees whose active participation on the day enriched the experience. Your feedback was appreciated and we look forward to seeing you again. We are already planning another professional development activity and hope you can attend.

Date claimer: The next PD activity on our 2013 calendar is the biennial Cyberschool Seminar, which is usually held at The Women's College, UQ St Lucia Campus. The expected date for the event is Friday, 13 September. Secondary school teacher-librarians, heads of departments (including in IT), principals, deputy principals and teachers are welcome to attend. Further information and invitations will be available from the UQL Cyberschool website at <http://www.library.uq.edu.au/services-for/services-for-secondary-schools>. If you have any questions about this event please do not hesitate to contact the UQL Cyberschool team.

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