Centralised Directed Resources

Integration of Reading List into the Learning Management System
Why change?

• De-centralised system for course readings
  - CAPS (Curriculum Approval and Publication System) – core texts captured
  - Handbook
  - Blackboard learning management system
    • Course readings embedded in some learning sites in Blackboard
  - Library catalogue
    • Course readings available by Unit

= INEFFECTIVE, LABOUR INTENSIVE AND CONFUSING
Replacement of Millennium gave us the perfect opportunity to make the changes we needed.
What did we need?

- **Efficiency**
  - Centralised system (3 locations into 1)
  - the student learning environment (Blackboard)

- **Ease** of tracking and reporting the use of third party copyright material

- **Effortless** course readings management for academics

Went in search for a system that would fulfil these needs
Why eReserve Plus?

• A system developed by an Australian company - eReserve
• A young, very agile company, responsive to our needs
  – opportunity to work with eReserve (the company) and help shape development
What’s in a name?

• eReserve
  – the Company
• eReserve plus
  – the system
• Reading List
  – what Academics and Staff know it as
Training: Pre- & Post-implementation

**Staff**
- eReserve Test environment
- Hands-on workshops
- Introductory sessions for all staff

**Academics**
- Academic champions recruited and trained
- Drop in sessions – all locations (Nov, Jan/Feb)
- Workshops for specialised areas (eg Engineering)
- Individual help sessions (telephone, face-to-face)
- Creation of Tip Sheets for common tasks available via Blackboard.
Implementation - Staff impact

• Massive increase in workload leading up to Go Live day and immediately after
  – Migrated data from CAPS & Millennium needed cleaning up
    • 15000 items +/- needed to be checked
  – Preparing Blackboard
    • Menu links created in 1500 units
  – Conduct training activities – workshops, Tip Sheets
The many faces of Reading List - Academic’s view
Student view

BLACKBOARD
EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

MAN2120: MAN2120 2017.1 METRO Organisational Behaviour

Readings

Required reading
(Robbins, Judge, Millett, & Boye, 2014) Organisational behaviour

Optional reading
(Kreitner, 2010) Organizational behavior

Optional reading
(S. P. Robbins, 2014) Essentials of organizational behavior

Optional reading
(S. P. Robbins, 2013) Organizational behavior

Optional reading
(Brooks, 2005) Organisational behaviour: individuals, groups and organisation

Optional reading
(S. P. Robbins, 2010) Organisational behaviour

Optional reading
(S. Robbins, 2008) Organisational behaviour

Optional reading
(S. P. Robbins, 2015) Organizational behavior

Optional reading
(S. P. Robbins, Judge, Millett, & Boye, 2016) Organisational behaviour

Past Exam Papers

Optional reading
(n.d.) MAN2120 Sem. 2:2012
Staff view

[Image of a screenshot of the ECU eReserve Plus system, showing the Requests management section with various reading requests listed.]
Responses from Academics

Positive:
- “Personally I think it is a fabulous addition…keeping the readings all neat, tidy and accessible from a single repository”

Not so positive:
- “It was a very big, time-consuming and frustrating job…difficult for the lecturers, and adds another burden for them…”
Response from the Students

• Some minor issues
  – Access issues – bad links
  – Can’t access readings for units not enrolled in ("we could always access whatever unit we wanted")
Issues/Surprises

• Academics adding incorrect links
  – Google books, Amazon etc
  – Further education required!
• Historic information migrated across
  – “I don’t even know half of these readings!”
• Summer school…oops!
• Immediate decommissioning of Millennium

So how did eReserve plus go?
Has eReserve Plus delivered?

- **Efficiency**
  Centralised directed readings within the Learning Management System

- **Ease of managing third party copyright**

- **Effortless course reading management for (most) academics**
What now?

- Still some work to do to fully hone the processes
- Working with developers on improvements
  - Embedding readings within the Blackboard content area
- Need for on-going training for academics – not “set and forget”

In conclusion....
Overall experience

• The implementation process went well.
• Easy program to learn and use
  – Simplified work processes
• Afforded us opportunities to do things we don’t normally do
  – Liaise directly with academics (faces to names)
  – Develop training/educational material
  – Develop/test new workflows and associated procedural documentation