RFID Going Ahead

During the summer the University Library will be introducing RFID based self-service for our circulation services such as the issue and return of books and audio-visual resources. This will enable us to move staff from transactional activities to engaging more directly with academic staff and students at the point of need through provision of services such as roaming support and a Welcome Desk. We anticipate that these new ways of interacting with the users will enhance the user experience. RFID will also enable us to simplify many standard collection management tasks such as finding missing or mis-shelved items in the Library and stock checking giving a much more accurate catalogue to the benefit of all users. It is anticipated that we will be going live with this service in September. Further details on the introduction of RFID are available from Ken Dick, Associate University Librarian

(ken.dick@port.ac.uk).

Journal Weeding

During this summer the Library will be undertaking a weeding exercise on the science and technology print journal collections, based on usage statistics, to allow us to create additional study spaces for students on the ground floor of the Library. We are focusing our attention initially on the science and technology journals due to the high availability and use of electronic journals in this area with an accompanying decline in use of the print journals which has resulted in almost 48% of the journals on the ground floor not being used since October 2007. Similar exercises on the other floors of the Library will take place in summer 2013. Further details on the journal weeding exercise are available from Andy Barrow, Science Faculty Librarian (andy.barrow@port.ac.uk) or Timothy Collinson, Technology Faculty Librarian
 (timothy.collinson@port.ac.uk).
Our thanks to those who've engaged so helpfully with the book weeding exercise which is helping with the RFID project (see above).

Not one—but two new Assistant Faculty Librarians!

News just in: After interviews on Friday, we're delighted to announce that Ann Hindson and Sarah Weston have been appointed to the post of Assistant Faculty Librarian for the Science and Technology faculties. This will be a job share between the two of them as they seek to support Andy and Timothy in providing excellent resources and services to the two faculties, deliver induction and training to students (and staff!) at all levels, respond to individual enquiries within the Library, manage reading lists and other online information literacy resources, along with a host of other activities. They're taking over from Sue Stevenson, who you will recall has been promoted to the Faculty Librarian (PBS) post.

Ann has been our Team Leader for Procurement and Metadata (what was Acquisitions and Cataloguing) since the beginning of 2009 and brings with her a wealth of experience in both public libraries and academic libraries. Sarah has been our Data Manager for over four years where she has been invaluable in collecting, managing and reporting on the large amount of data related to our use of electronic resources.

Andy and Timothy look forward to working with them from the beginning of August, and we've no doubt that everyone in both the Science and Technology faculties will give them a warm welcome. We'll no doubt be touring your departments soon!