

Alumni access to electronic resources – summary of Dalianz feedback August 2007

Original Dalianz query from UTAS was:

UTAS has negotiated licences for electronic resources for current staff and students only. Alumni who wish to use electronic resources may only do this as walkin users. UTAS is exploring access to library electronic resources for UTAS Alumni. We know that some other universities have already done this.

We'd be very interested in what others have done - have you allowed alumni access to all your resources, or only some? What changes to licences were necessary, and was there a significant increase in licence fees? Do you know what sort of take-up your alumni have made of the access to electronic resources?

Library/ Information from	Have alumni access?	Databases available to alumni	Other information
Charles Sturt University Sarah Bishop sbishop@csu.edu.au	Yes – from 2006	EBSCOhost Alumni databases, Academic Search Alumni, and Business Source Alumni	Access is restricted to registered alumni members. Further details can be found on the CSU Library Alumni webpage http://www.csu.edu.au/division/library/alumni/ Uptake of this service has been slow with few registrations received in the year to date however this may be due to a delayed launch of the University's Alumni website and its promotion of the service to our alumni.
Curtin University	Yes	ProQuest	[Alumni] can of course access all of the free databases

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Lib Parisotto L.Parisotto@curtin.edu.au		(except MLA) and Safari Tech Books Online	listed at http://library.curtin.edu.au/dblistfree/index.html and access the 'walkin access' databases listed at http://library.curtin.edu.au/dblistwalkin/index.html when they are on campus
Edith Cowan University Dan Archibald d.archibald@ecu.edu.au	Yes	ProQuest 5000	Alumni get library access as part of the package of benefits when they join the ECU Alumni Association. This includes remote access to Proquest 5000 databases, and some other databases through Proquest (e.g. IIPA - Index to Performing Arts, Palmers Index), which we negotiated with Proquest with no increase in license fees. Alumni would get access to more databases on campus as walk-in users.
La Trobe University Helen King Helen.king@latrobe.edu.au	No – but investigating		We don't offer such access currently but know there is a demand from alumni and are investigating Proquest at the moment. If we do go down this track it would be limited offerings in the first instance while we test the water (and any budget impact).

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<p>Macquarie University</p> <p>Jennifer Peasley jennifer.peasley@library.mq.edu.au</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>Free access to two <i>EBSCO Alumni Databases</i> (Academic Search Alumni Edition, and Business Source Alumni Edition) and also to <i>Business Monitor Online</i> for several years now</p>	<p>Arrangement with the EBSCO databases is part of our current licence agreement, and we pay a small amount on top of our usual licence fees to provide access to alumni. We have 420 alumni registered to use the databases.</p>
<p>Monash University</p> <p>Suzanne Clark Suzanne.clark@lib.monash.edu.au</p>	<p>Yes</p>	<p>ProQuest 5000 Scopus Austlit SourceOECD Expanded Academic</p>	<p>Alumni have walkin access and access to free databases. A few vendors offer special alumni access, sometimes at an extra cost, which allows alumni to register and have access from home too. Access is always configured separately from the normal access. Alumni pay a special library membership fee of \$110, instead of the normal alumni fee of \$55, and are issued with individual passwords. The access is controlled by</p>

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			a separate configuration of ezproxy.
<p>Murdoch University</p> <p>Del Shiers d.shiers@murdoch.edu.au</p>	Yes	remote ProQuest access	<p>Our Alumni webpage contains instructions for joining the Library, etc as well as a section on database access.</p> <p>http://wwwlib.murdoch.edu.au/for/alumni/#database</p> <p>This section includes the statement “Please note it is a Condition of Use that Alumni use ProQuest only for their own personal research or educational use, not as a substitute for their employers or businesses obtaining access to the service.” ProQuest is the only subscription database where remote access is provided for Alumni, all other databases that can be remotely accessed by Alumni are unlicensed/free.</p> <p>Usage stats for Alumni demonstrate that they are a very small proportion of the total remote database access (0.17% in 2004, 0.11% in 2006). The decreasing percentage of alumni usage cf. total usage is perhaps to be expected, as we progressively increase the number of databases where Alumni are not provided with remote access.</p>

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			We do ask about conditions/costs for extending access to Alumni when renewing (or taking on new) subscriptions to multi disciplinary databases that we consider of interest to Alumni, but to date the arrangement with ProQuest is unique.
RMIT University Stephen Gillespie Stephen.gillespie@rmit.edu.au	2005/2006 trial	Not specified	In 2005/06 RMIT University Library provided access to selective e-resources, as part of a 12 month trial to 26 DBA alumni. Where required we paid additional licence fees. Usage stats showed that out of the 26 only 8 alumni regularly used the e-resources provided. Like UWA we hope to provide additional alumni access where licences allow.
Southern Cross University Craig Littler Craig.littler@scu.edu.au	Yes	ProQuest 5000	A ProQuest password can be requested when registering with the Alumni Office. There is currently no additional charge from ProQuest for this, and usage is low. Otherwise, Alumni only have walkin access to Library databases. Information on services for Alumni is available on our website at http://www.scu.edu.au/library/services/alumni.html

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<p>Swinburne University</p> <p>Gary Hardy GHardy@groupwise.swin.edu.au</p>	<p>Previously - offer no remote access currently</p>	<p>Was subscribed to ProQuest for alumni</p>	<p>At Swinburne we offered access to Alumni to Proquest under the CAUL negotiated licence. They had to join the University Alumni association.</p> <p>We have subsequently discontinued our subscription to Proquest, so at the moment we are offering no off campus remote access for Alumni.</p> <p>Alumni use of Proquest was extremely small - less than 10 logins for the year from memory. On the basis of takeup we couldn't justify the extra cost for extending access to Alumni from other resources.</p> <p>We've had no complaints since we stopped the Proquest [access].</p>
<p>University of Adelaide</p> <p>Steve Crammond Stephen.crammond@adelaide.edu.au</p>	<p>Yes – treating it as a pilot</p>	<p>2 EBSCOhost databases: Academic Search Alumni Ed and</p>	<p>We are not ProQuest subscribers. If we were, doubtless it would be ProQuest which we would be offering to alumni. We are aware that Thomson-Gale are also, in licencing terms, alumni-friendly but both EBSCO and T-G make an extra charge [a few extra thousand] to</p>

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University of Adelaide (cont.)		Business Source Alumni Ed	<p>allow us to entertain alumni so we had to make a choice and went with the package with the largest amount of fulltext content.</p> <p>EBSCO began by offering their standard business and academic databases to libraries to provide to their alumni, but quickly found that some of their publishers were unhappy with the idea of post-study workers/professionals having access to their resources at places of employment and using their content for work purposes. E.g. Harvard Business School asked EBSCO to remove HBR from the product EBSCO were making available to alumni. Thus the 2 Alumni Editions are somewhat less appealing than the full versions of the databases made available to current staff and students.</p> <p>We also provide access for Alumni to Project MUSE as the standard academic licence allows for this.</p> <p>It is interesting to read that other Aust Libraries are now routinely asking publishers about terms and conditions for Alumni access. We have heard, over the years, about US libraries doing this but it is hard to get a sense of how successful they have</p>

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University of Adelaide (cont.)			<p>been.</p> <p>At Adelaide, we are treating the rest of 2007 as a pilot, making the databases available free on request to any alumnus who is already a [paid-up] registered borrower with the Library. We will look at introducing separate charges in 08 for print and online membership of the Library.</p> <p>We require alumni to sign a declaration that they will only use these resources provided for personal research and study, and won't seek to use the service as a substitute for their employer subscribing to the database.</p> <p>Re take-up, it is early days. Our Membership staff report brisk business but we are not sure that this is being translated into actual usage. Usage stats from EBSCOhost show low-moderate usage at this stage. uptake low-moderate at this stage.</p>
University of New South Wales Janet Fletcher Janet.Fletcher@unsw.edu.au	No		Exception: Graduate school of management has alumni access for specialised databases – have separate licenses/fees

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University of Tasmania Di Worth Di.Worth@utas.edu.au	No		Walkin access only
University of Technology Sydney Ann Flynn via Pamela Leuzinger Pamela.Leuzinger@uts.edu.au	Yes	EBSCOhost	Alumni [pay] for certain levels of Library services (details at http://www.lib.uts.edu.au/services/alumni) It costs us a small amount extra on top of our normal licence fees to provide Alumni access, and we currently have around 500 Alumni who are eligible users of these databases. Use of other electronic resources is available to walk-ins, licenses permitting.
University of Western Australia Ralph Kiel rkiel@library.uwa.edu.au	Developing remote access – avail. 2008		At UWA we are developing a way to give Alumni remote access to Proquest and other e-resource collections or journals where licences allow. This will be completed in 2008. We are also developing a standard question(s) so we can ask vendors about alumni access during the upcoming renewal process. We will then monitor the situation.