I have been particularly heartened this year by the positive response of library staff as they reorganised structures to continue to deliver quality services while facing the departure of several exceptional colleagues. The new College Library Support team has been a key factor in ensuring continuity of branch library services, as well as delivering information literacy programmes within Colleges. It has also been excellent to see the cladding finally appearing on the Library building and further investment by the University to create a new Postgraduate Study area.

Helen Durndell, University Librarian.

Looking to the future

Modernising the building
Work began in January 2012 to overclad the University of Glasgow Library building. Many of the original concrete cladding panels, installed between 1965-1968, have deteriorated over time. The building is being overclad with an aluminium rain screen system to provide a ‘total envelope solution’ extending the life of the building by another 50 years. This huge project, a £4.5m investment by the University, is due for completion in July 2013.

This year, thanks to a £2m University investment, all library material was cleared from the Level 5 Annexe in preparation for a new postgraduate study space.

Take the Library with you – mobile futures
The Mobile Technologies Group has continued to deliver an ongoing strategy for access to Library content and services via mobile devices. The highlight of the year has been the development of the new Library mobile website, launched in July 2012: www.glasgow.ac.uk/services/library/mobile/

The mobile site includes a catalogue search, article search and the most popular Library account functions such as renewing books.

The Mobile Technologies Group also led the development of the innovative 23 Things Mobile online staff training course. The Library created a Live Lab where staff can engage with new technologies. There has been a great deal of interest in the development of the Library mobile strategy from the wider Library community and members of the Group have been invited to speak at a number of conferences and meetings throughout the year such as the m-libraries 2012 conference. The strategy was also used as a case study example of good practice by both the M-Library Support Project (funded by JISC) and the JISC Regional Support Centre Scotland, where the work was also nominated for an iTech award.

Social media
Partnership between Library Services, the Library web team and staff in Student Services and Sport & Recreation has led to developments in the library’s social media presence. This is now a very important part of the way we communicate with students, with over 4,500 people who “like” the Library’s Facebook page.
Highlights and achievements of the year

- Library cladding underway
- Clearance of level 5 annexe in preparation for a dedicated postgraduate study space
- Launch of the Library’s mobile website and mobile strategy
- Deposit of the 50,000th record in Enlighten, the University’s research repository
- Creation of Am Fosglan display area on level 2
- Special Collections participation in Culture Hack 2012
- Special Collections receives the papers of Louise Annand and R F Muirhead
- Launch of the House of Fraser and Stoddard Templeton Archive catalogues
- Creation of the “International Story” website
- Completion of cataloguing of all archives held on Modern Genetics in Glasgow

Enlightenment has been reached
At the end of June 2012, Enlighten, the University’s research repository, reached 50,000 records for publications produced by University of Glasgow authors. The 50,000th paper was:

E-book provision
The library now offers over 780,000 ebooks from a variety of suppliers, an increase of 6% on last year.

Am Fosglan
A dedicated display area, Am Fosglan, (meaning “welcoming space” in Gaelic) has been created at the Library entrance. The formal opening by the Chancellor in April featured a new display to commemorate World Malaria Day. The display group focuses on displays which can be made available both physically and online, with web versions taking full advantage of available technologies. The display celebrating World Malaria Day was the first one to be available online and as posters.

College Library Support Team
The College Library Support Team was formed in August 2011 as a result of internal restructuring within the Library. The team provides front line services for four branch libraries and also support the College Librarians. The team was joined this year by a new Learning Technologist who has been working hard to update the Library videos.

People – two retirals

Tony Kidd
Tony Kidd retired from the post of Assistant Director (Financial & Corporate Services) at the end of July after 26 years service at the University. Tony is respected throughout the UK and beyond for his expertise in the area of scholarly communication issues and Library Materials purchasing. His most recent achievement is the Scottish Higher Education Digital Library (SHEDL).

David Weston
Following 35 years of employment in the library, David’s last day as Keeper of Special Collections was 31st January 2012. Much respected by library and academic colleagues and highly knowledgeable about the collections, David’s expertise and direction will be sorely missed.
Special Collections

This has been a very busy year for Special Collections and one in which the collections have been used in many varied ways. As well as serving the traditional clientele of students and researchers studying material in the reading room, items have been lent to various exhibitions and several well attended events have been organised to publicise a range of collections. Special Collections staff have also hosted a number of taught postgraduates on work placement, blogged on a fascinating array of topics, and made good progress with the high profile Glasgow Incunabula Project.

R D Laing film

The nomination of Glasgow-based artist Luke Fowler for this year’s Turner Prize is a prime example of one of the more “unusual” outcomes from work with our collections - the art film All Divided Selves (2011), the third in a trilogy of films which explore the life of R.D. Laing, whose extensive archive is held here in Special Collections and which Luke has previously worked with. Laing’s archive was made accessible and catalogued with funding from the Wellcome Trust’s Research Resources in Medical History programme (2003-2004).

Culture Hack 2012

Participation in Culture Hack 2012 (a 24-hour event that ‘challenges designers, technologists and artists to make innovative new culture-related projects…) was another intriguing instance of non-traditional use of our collections. Another modern archive featured here, as we contributed scrapbook images and listings of poems from the papers of Edwin Morgan; as an inventive writer who was fascinated by new technology throughout his life, this was surely a highly appropriate use of Morgan’s archive.

Papers of R F Muirhead

In December Special Collections received the papers of R F Muirhead (1860-1941), a mathematician and University of Glasgow graduate who was a close friend and correspondent of two significant thinkers of the late 19th and early 20th centuries: Edward Carpenter (1844-1929), a socialist writer and campaigner for homosexual equality, at whose house Muirhead met the feminist and social theorist Olive Schreiner (1855-1920). Their letters refer to contemporary events including the First World War and their wider professional and social connections.

Louise Annand papers

The papers of Louise Annand (1915-2012), artist, educator and film maker and graduate of the University, were received in July. This extensive collection documents a diverse and fascinating life, her friendships with artists and writers including Margaret Morris, J D Fergusson and Naomi Mitchison and her role in the cultural life of Glasgow and beyond.
Modern Genetics in Glasgow project
In February 2012 the Wellcome Trust-funded Modern Genetics in Glasgow project was completed with the launch of the online catalogue for the papers of Guido Pontecorvo, the University’s first Professor of Genetics. Through the Research Resources in Medical History programme, the Wellcome Trust supported the cataloguing of the papers of the University’s pre-eminent geneticists, Guido Pontecorvo, James Harrison Renwick and Malcolm Ferguson-Smith.

Papers of Thomas Ferguson Rodger
The Wellcome Trust’s Research Resources in Medical History programme has also supported the appointment of project staff to catalogue the papers of Thomas Ferguson Rodger, the University’s first Professor of Psychological Medicine. The online catalogue commenced in August 2012.

International Story project
The International Story project began in spring 2012, supported by the Chancellor’s Fund, to showcase the University’s rich heritage of International students and staff. While the International Story website is in development, highlights from the project’s findings have been posted on a blog site: uoginternationalstory.wordpress.com

House of Fraser archive catalogue
At the end of 2011, the online catalogue for the House of Fraser Archive was launched (www.housefraserarchive.ac.uk) with an advent calendar of Christmas images from the collection. This extensive collection brings together over 150 shelf metres of records relating to the House of Fraser and its stores which stretch the length and breadth of the United Kingdom. It is a significant resource for the study of the management of retail business and of fashions in the nineteenth and twentieth century.

Stoddard-Templeton Archive catalogue launch
Archive Services launched the online catalogue for the Stoddard-Templeton Archive in September 2011. The catalogue includes not only descriptions of the corporate records of Stoddard’s, Templeton’s and the other associated carpet manufacturing companies represented in the collection, but also of the 10,000 design papers and patterns which were accumulated by the company in the course of its business.

Archive Services
Facts and Figures

Membership of the Library increased slightly to 47,841 overall. There was an increase in undergraduate student numbers and external membership was up 7% to 5,303.

Visitors to the Library – physical and virtual
Visits to the University Libraries increased by 13% to 1,727,925. Visits to the Main Library increased by 7% to 1,641,268 with a further 32,089 visiting the Adam Smith Library, 53,303 visiting the James Ireland Memorial Library and 1,265 visiting Archive Services.

The average visits per FTE student increased to 80 compared with 74 last year. The most frequent visitors are from the College of Social Sciences followed by the College of Arts.

From Google Analytics, the number of page views to the Library website was 1,205,113.

Use of Information Resources
The use of information resources increased by 23%. Although the borrowing of printed material was down by 8%, the use of all electronic resources continued to rise; e-journals up 28%, e-books up 32%, Online Course Materials up 17% and downloads from Enlighten (research repository) increased by 21%.

Use of resources per FTE student also increased to 278 from 184 last year.

Social Media
Library Blog: views of our blog posts have almost doubled from 57,494 in 2011 to 100,952 in 2012. 360 posts were made to the blog in 2012. universityofglasgowlibrary.wordpress.com

Flickr: on average there are over 1000 views per day of our 5,648 images. www.flickr.com/photos/uofglibrary/

Facebook: The Library’s Facebook page has over 4,500 “likes” www.facebook.com/uofglibrary

Twitter: the University of Glasgow Library has 1,714 followers twitter.com/uofglibrary