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Blurring the boundaries between our physical and electronic libraries

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Blurring the boundaries between our physical and electronic libraries

Handheld Librarian Conference
Andrew Walsh, 2010



The next 20 minutes



- .Why 'blur the boundaries'
- .Locating technologies
- .'Smarter' objects
- .RFID for more than just circulation

Why? A little bit of magic



<http://www.flickr.com/photos/7933170@N03/2631820657/> - by photographer padawan *(xava du).

Inspiring tomorrow's professionals

Why? To keep our physical libraries...



Are we becoming glorified computer labs and meeting places?

Inspiring tomorrow's professionals

Why? To keep our physical libraries...



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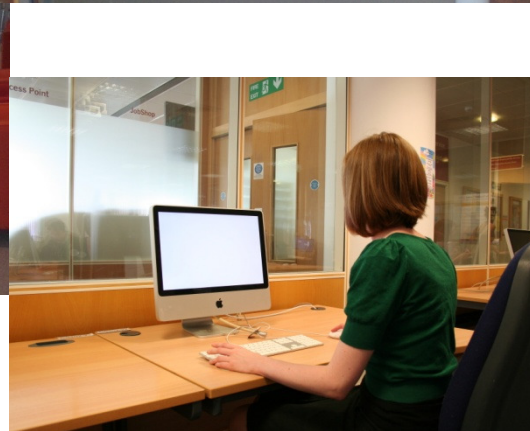


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Why? To keep our physical libraries...



Are we becoming glorified o



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Why? To keep our physical libraries...



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Quick poll!



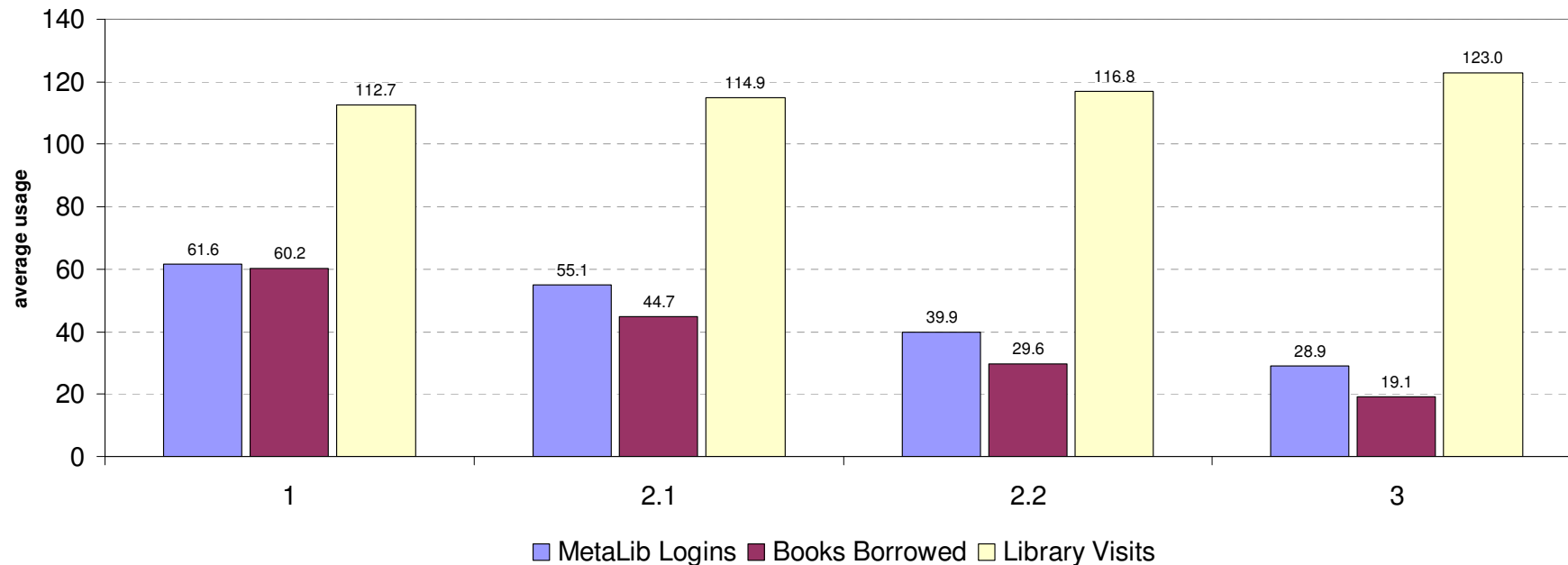
Do you think your physical library directly impacts on student achievement?

YES/NO

Why? To keep our physical libraries...



Library Usage v Final Award – All Honours Courses



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What is the physical library for?



Click to edit Master text styles

Second level

• Third level

• Fourth level

• Fifth level

create

explore

inquire

learn

discover

About Mills Learning Commons

Library & Research Help

Learning Support

I.T. Support

your library just got better!

McMaster University Libraries | FAQ | Comments & Suggestions | Learning Commons News & Events

<http://www.flickr.com/photos/michaelsphotos/430442919/> - mstephens7

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Personalising the library environment

- .Typical 'mobile friendly' library services
- .Podcasts; SMS services; Mobile friendly web pages
- .What about the user moving through the library?
- .Annotating the physical resources;
- .Augmenting the physical reality;
- .And more.....

Photo from <http://www.flickr.com/photos/przemion/296458630/> - przemion

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Locating technologies



- GPS
- WIFI / Bluetooth / Active RFID Triangulation

“...in large indoor environments such as libraries ... location awareness can become a crucial determinant of superior quality of service, deriving from the ability to locate the co-ordinates of a person or an object with reasonable accuracy at all time, and this provide spatially-aware services.”

Giaglis et al (2002) *On the potential use of mobile positioning technologies in indoor environments*. In: *ereality:constructing the eEconomy*, pp. 413-428. Bled: Slovenia

A few examples...

Erewhon
(Oxford)

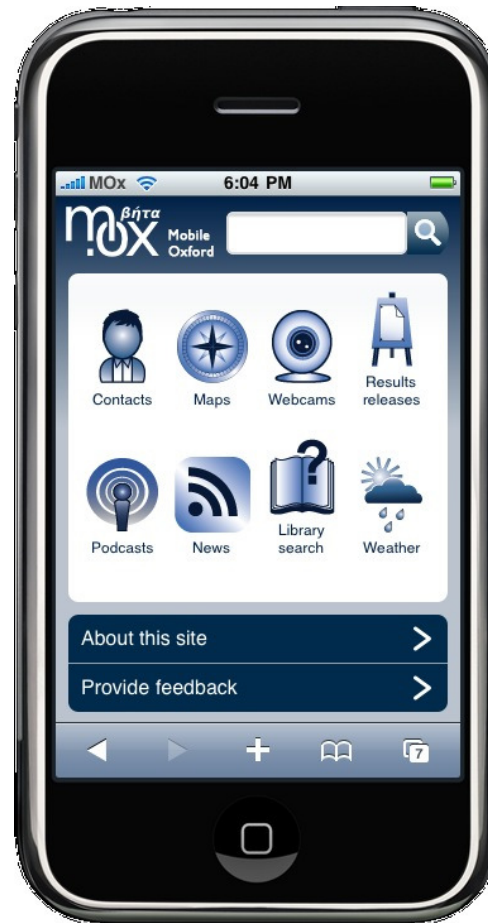


Image from <http://mobileoxford.posterous.com/>

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A few examples...

Technology enabled campus
(Durham)



Image from <http://tel1.dur.ac.uk/wiki/doku.php>

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A few examples...

- SmartLibrary
Oulu University Library

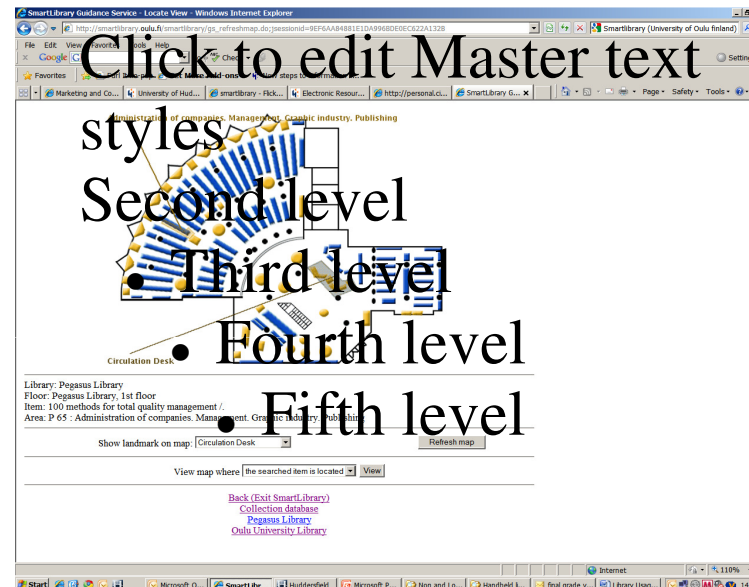


Image is desktop screenshot from Smartlibrary service...

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A quick poll...



Has anyone used these locating technologies within their own libraries?

If so, which?

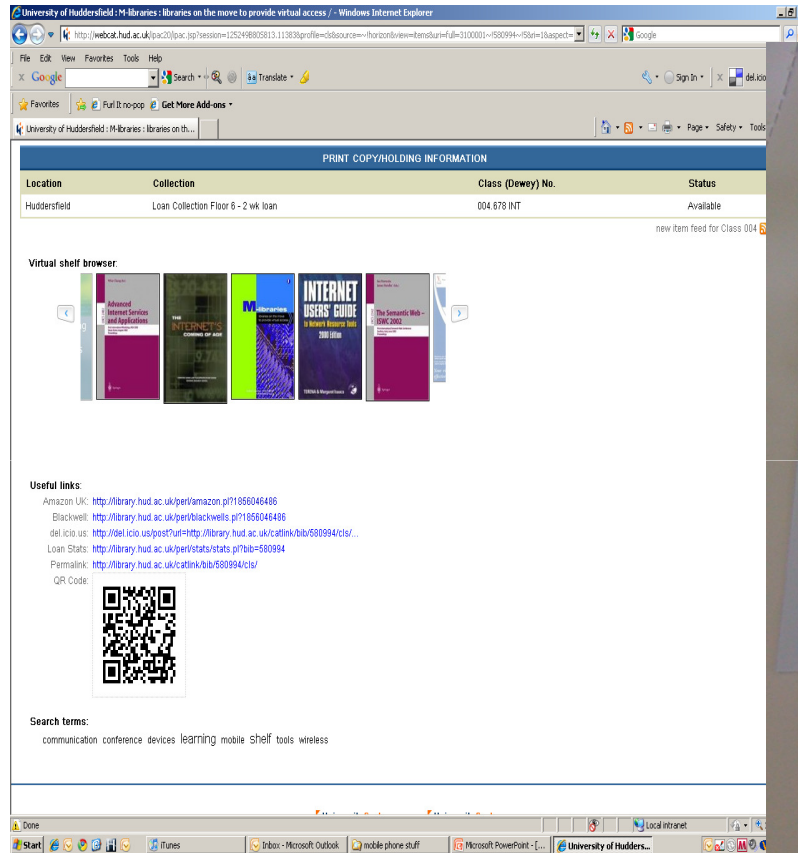
- 1) GPS
- 2) WIFI mapping
- 3) Bluetooth
- 4) Something else...

'Smarter' objects?

- QR codes and similar
- RFID tags



QR codes



University of Huddersfield - M-libraries: libraries on the move to provide virtual access - Windows Internet Explorer


http://webcat.hud.ac.uk/jspic.jsp?session=125249895813.11383grfite=6&source=+floorconview+item&url=3100001+580994+580+1&aspect=

PRINT COPYHOLDING INFORMATION

Location	Collection	Class (Dewey) No.	Status
Huddersfield	Loan Collection Floor 6 - 2 wk loan	004 078 INT	Available

new item feed for Class 004


Virtual shelf browser



Useful links:

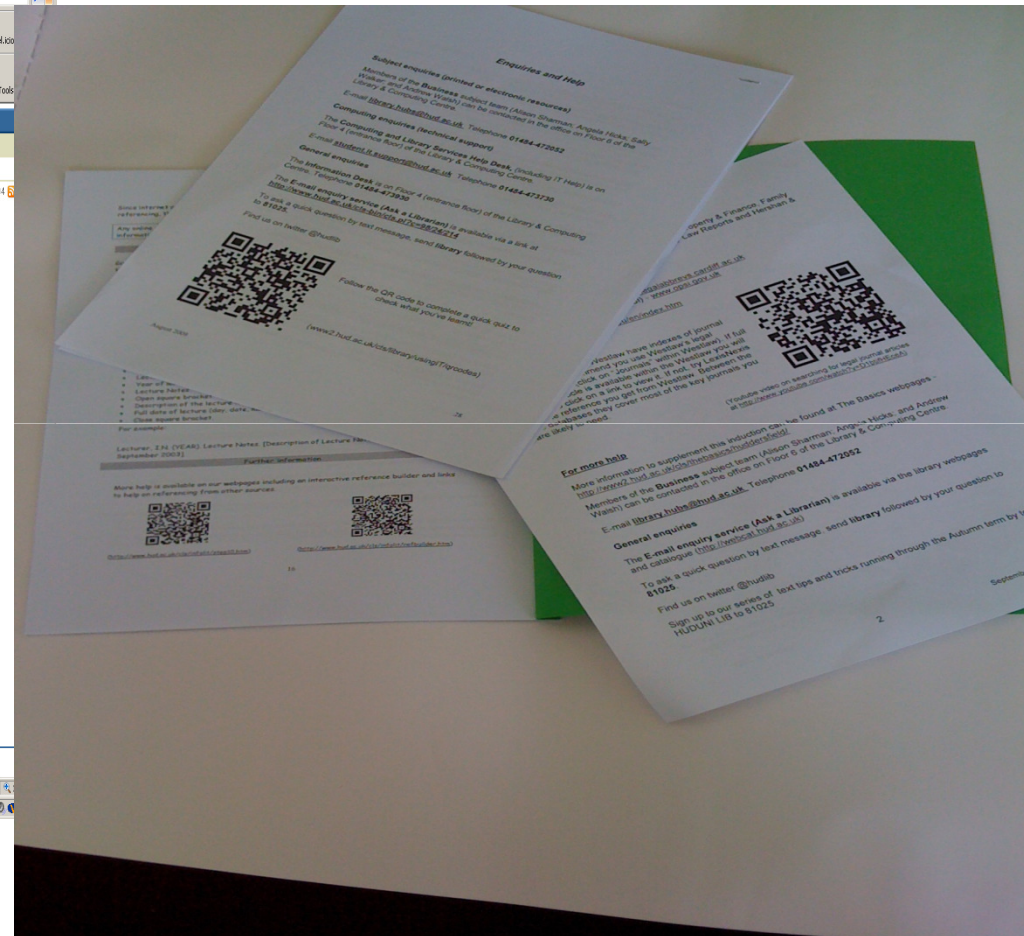
- Amazon UK: <http://library.hud.ac.uk/per/amazon.pl?1856046486>
- Blackwell: <http://library.hud.ac.uk/per/blackwells.pl?1856046486>
- delicio.us: [http://delicio.us/post?url=http://library.hud.ac.uk/atink/bib/580994/cis/...](http://delicio.us/post?url=http://library.hud.ac.uk/atink/bib/580994/cis/)
- Loan Stats: <http://library.hud.ac.uk/per/stats/stats.pl?lib=580994>
- Permalink: <http://library.hud.ac.uk/atink/bib/580994/cis/>

QR Code:



Search terms:

communication conference devices learning mobile shelf tools wireless



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QR codes



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QR codes



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Awareness of QR codes



.Before we started – 8% recognised a QR code

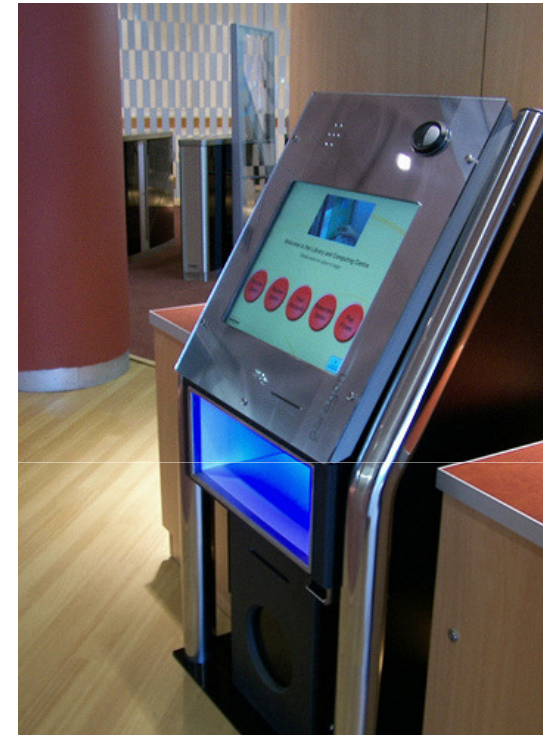
.After a full academic term – 22% recognised one.
(but another 11% volunteered they were familiar...)

RFID Tags

In our library, they're in:

- Every book
- Every DVD / Video
- In fact, almost all stock
- AND - every library card

But all we use them for is stock control and print credit.



RFID tags



Could be used for....

- Book recommendations
- Comments on books
- Recommend this book to others
- Personalised help
- Social Networking
- Directed messages from the University

Summary



So how can we bring that little bit of magic into the library?

- Could use software on handheld devices to locate users.
- Could use QR codes, or RFID tags to interact with users as they move around.

“Research which sought to make full use of all cell phone hardware and software capabilities in tandem would be creating a service which did not have a true analog in the physical library ... The development of such a platform provides the library with a way to be an instrumental part of the students' life.”

Hahn, J. (2008) Mobile learning for the 21st Century Librarian. *Reference Services Review*, 36(3), pp. 272-288.