

William Angliss Institute Centre 2017 Annual Report

In 2017, the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) experienced a massive increase in foot traffic through the doors of 289,170 people compared to 191,272 in 2016. This increase is partly due to extended opening hours but also due to increased enrolments and improved statistical gathering.

Physical lending of items continued to decline to 8825 compared to 11,720 the year before, but eBook loans nearly doubled from 761 in 2016 to 1498 last year. Year 2017 was also the first proper year of self-check RFID lending which accounted for 47% of book lending. What was especially pleasing was the continued increase in full-text downloads from our database - 52,044 pdf downloads last year compared to 47,099 in 2016 and EZproxy offsite logins: 32,498 last year compared to 29,761 in 2016. This increase is partly explained by the worldwide decline in physical lending/reading but also factors such as improved EDS searching, Google Scholar linking and webpage functionality.

Some other achievements included the upload to Trove (National Library) of our special collection menu records and the implementation of APA referencing style as the default style across both HE and VET. In 2017, William Angliss Institute became the first TAFE to have a Masters by Research degree accredited by TEQSA.

Embedding HE liaison in the Department, additional electronic databases and EndNote classes are a few examples of how the LRC supported the Institute's push towards self-accrediting status and university of specialisation classification. A continuing challenge for the LRC is to provide expanding information resources and services for its growing HE sector while continuing to support its predominantly VET staff and students.