To inspire Imperial’s communities of researchers and learners by connecting them to information and expertise.

Key Facts

Central Library at South Kensington, 6 libraries at medical campuses and Silwood Park

Over 150,000 journal titles purchased and over 5.5 million full text article requests in 2015/16

Over 220,000 items in print plus over 160,000 e-books

Library staff recognised by Student Academic Choice Awards, and the Higher Education Academy in 2015 and 2016

Library expenditure on resources is 53% of budget

Library expenditure on staff is 40% of budget

92% resource budget spent on e-resources

Almost 1.3 million entries into the Central Library in 2015/16 – our busiest year ever

93% National Student Survey score in 2016

In 2015/16 staff delivered 1,509 hours of teaching to 16,415 attendees from the College and NHS community
“The Imperial College Central Library has an excellent book collection, which is helpful during the course. The access to journals is very good as well.”

Faculty of Natural Sciences – NSS 2016

Supporting students throughout their College journey (& beyond)

**MEET YOUR LIBRARIAN**
- Induction talks
- Librarians for all subjects
- Daily drop-in service
- 1 to 1 advice

**KNOWING YOUR SUBJECT**
- Textbook collections
- Borrowing across all libraries
- Access to electronic resources
- Free document delivery
- Reciprocal access to other libraries
- Subject web pages

**CONTINUING ACCESS**
- Free library membership
- Access to libraries
- Walk-in access to electronic resources

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**GETTING STARTED**
- Open Day visits
- Access to resources prior to arrival
- Pre-sessional support
- New students web pages and tutorials
- Imperial Success Guide

**STUDY SKILLS**
- Information discovery skills
- Plagiarism awareness
- Copyright advice
- Reference management training
- Academic writing and publishing expertise

**WORK ENVIRONMENT**
- Range of study environments
- Printer-copier services
- Assistive technology PCs
- Desktop PCs
- Laptop loans
- iPad loans
- 24hr access to Central Library
- Campus Libraries

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**Education and learning**
- we run teaching and training in all departments for undergraduate and PGT students covering information literacy, plagiarism awareness and academic skills
- workshops and online modules on the use of social media/web-based tools in learning and research are available for all students
- a plagiarism awareness online module for PhD students has been developed with both the Graduate School and Business School
- an online e-learning module for RefWorks reference management software is available to all Medicine students

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“Excellent library facilities.”

Faculty of Medicine NSS 2016
• the Library’s online information literacy programme is available on an open Library website so all students have access to its content

• librarians deliver workshops, webinars and master classes for the Graduate School Professional Skills Programme

• we provide advice and support to PhD students and supervisors on the preparation of PhD theses for upload to Spiral (the College’s digital repository)

Library spaces

Our libraries are kept under constant review to optimise the range and quality of services and study spaces. Through student feedback exercises such as surveys and studies of the user experience, we are able to identify areas requiring improvement.

In 2016, at the Central Library, we created a new silent study room, adding 24 new study spaces – all with power sockets. We also launched a laptop loans service. In 2017 phase 2 of the redevelopment programme will deliver improved cooling and ventilation systems to levels 4 and 5.

At our campus libraries we increased the number of power and data sockets.

A new library space has been created at Chelsea and Westminster Campus Library. The new space features improved lighting and ventilation. There are 3 training rooms and all study spaces have data and power points. The library can provide 24/7 access for Imperial College London staff and students and NHS staff based at the Chelsea and Westminster campus.

Research support

RESEARCH EXCELLENCE FRAMEWORK (REF)

• following the introduction of the new HEFCE open access policy, we are now collaborating with all departments to ensure compliance for the post-2014 REF

OPEN ACCESS (OA)

• we manage the open access funds from the Charities Open Access Fund, Research Councils UK (RCUK) and Imperial’s own budget for open access fees

• we work closely with Imperial’s Vice-Provost Advisory Group for Research and the Research Office on policy implementation and communication
we deliver open access awareness activities for academic staff, postdocs, and PhD students (in collaboration with the PostDoc Development Centre and Graduate School)

**RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT**

- our Research Data Support Team delivers a RDM support service for College, including training events, webinars and outreach activities

**COPYRIGHT SUPPORT**

- an online copyright course has been developed to increase researchers’ awareness of UK copyright law and to ensure that all PhD theses are copyright safe

**Enhanced access to content**

- in September 2016 we completed the roll out of new reading list software (Leganto) to all academic departments. This has enabled students in those departments that use supported VLE areas (BS Hub, Blackboard) to get easy access to their reading lists.
- we are committed to delivering the best experience for all our users. During summer 2016 the Library’s systems team ran a round of user experience research into the information seeking behaviour of undergraduates and postgraduates. As a result, significant improvements were made to the Library Search interface (Primo).

**UK Research Reserve**

- UK Research Reserve (UKRR) is a £12m HEFCE-funded project hosted by the Library, based on a partnership between the HE sector and the British Library
- UKRR has enabled the HE sector to de-duplicate approximately 85km of journal material and release space with an estimated capital value of £26.5m
- the UKRR community has retained over 18,800 scarce items for the nation’s researchers

“This is one the finest libraries I have ever visited. There is every resource available and the staff are extremely professional and helpful.”

*St Mary’s Campus Library user*