

**Cover sheet for proposals** (*All sections must be completed*)

**JISC ITT: Review of User Requirements for Digitised Resources in Islamic Studies**

<b>Name of institution/organisation</b> University of Exeter	
<b>Project partners (if applicable)</b>	
<b>Full contact details for primary contact</b> <b>Name:</b> Paul Auchterlonie <b>Position:</b> Librarian for Islamic Studies and Collections Manager <b>Email:</b> J.P.C.Auchterlonie@exeter.ac.uk <b>Address:</b> Old Library, University of Exeter, Prince of Wales, Road, Exeter, Devon EX4 4SB <b>Tel:</b> 01392-264051 <b>Fax:</b> 01392 263871	
<b>Length of Project</b>	Three months
<b>Project Start &amp; End Dates</b>	March 2008 - May 2008
<b>Total Funding Requested from JISC</b>	£34900
<b>Outline Project Description</b> The aim of this project is to evaluate the existing provision of digitised materials in Islamic Studies, to identify further resources whose digitisation would be of benefit to UK Higher Education, and to propose criteria for the digitisation of identified materials by reviewing the actual user requirements rather than theoretical ones. Existing digitised resources both for teaching and research will be evaluated by an experienced team based at the University of Exeter, comprising academics, librarians and digital assets managers. The methodology for identifying new resources will include surveys both of relevant academic staff and of the guardians of cultural heritage collections, the setting up of focus groups in particular areas of Islamic Studies, and the interviewing of senior academics who teach and research in Islamic Studies. This review will propose a digitisation framework for Islamic Studies collections to establish the basis for a collaborative collection management policy of the digitised collections.	

## Review of User Requirements for Digitised Resources in Islamic Studies

### Executive Summary

The aim of this project is to evaluate the existing provision of digitised materials in Islamic Studies, to identify further resources whose digitisation would be of benefit to UK Higher Education, and to propose criteria for the digitisation of identified materials by reviewing the actual user requirements rather than theoretical ones. Existing digitised resources both for teaching and research will be evaluated by an experienced team based at the University of Exeter, comprising academics, librarians and digital assets managers. The methodology for identifying new resources will include surveys both of relevant academic staff and of the guardians of cultural heritage collections, the setting up of focus groups in particular areas of Islamic Studies, and the interviewing of senior academics who teach and research in Islamic Studies. This review will propose a digitisation framework for Islamic Studies collections to establish the basis for a collaborative collection management policy of the digitised collections.

### Introduction

Digitisation has become a global trend and a necessary tool for long-term preservation and wider accessibility. The rapid progress in digital technologies and the interoperability of systems have enabled cross-sectoral participation and harvesting of metadata, while the Internet is the medium of delivery.

Funding opportunities for digitisation have encouraged institutions to archive digital material and convert existing material into digital format. A considerable amount of digitised material on Islamic Studies is already available on the web. However, despite the existence of various important portals, such as *MENALIB*<sup>1</sup>, *MENIC*<sup>2</sup>, *Middle East Studies Internet Resources*<sup>3</sup>, *Islamic Studies Pathways*<sup>4</sup>, *Islam and Islamic Studies Resources*<sup>5</sup> and *Virtual Libraries*<sup>6</sup>, and of blogs such as *Musings on the Britannic Crescent*<sup>7</sup>, there is no one site which makes available primary and secondary resources in both English and Arabic (or any other Islamic language). Of equal importance is the fact that there has been no evaluation of the most significant resources required for teaching and researching Islam. Given the prominent position of Islam in British society, and the fact that the Government has designated Islamic Studies of strategic importance, it is vital that we discover what teachers, researchers and users actually require, whether it is digitised articles, whole journals, secondary works, primary works in translation, primary works in original languages, Islamic manuscripts, archival materials, reference works, or a combination of some or all of the above. Indeed, it is possible that some of the most important works and journals are already digitised, e.g. *Encyclopaedia of Islam*, *Encyclopaedia of the Quran*, *Index*

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<sup>1</sup> The Middle East Virtual Library, Halle University <http://ssgdoc.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/vlib/html/index.html>

<sup>2</sup> The Middle East Information Network Center, University of Texas at Austin <http://menic.utexas.edu/>

<sup>3</sup> Columbia University <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/mideast/cuvlm/>

<sup>4</sup> Gary Bunt <http://www.lamp.ac.uk/cis/pathways/pathways.html>

<sup>5</sup> Alan Godlas <http://godlas.myweb.uga.edu/>

<sup>6</sup> University of Utah <http://www.lib.utah.edu/middleeast/virtuallibraries.html>

<sup>7</sup> Yahya Birt <http://www.yahyabirt.com/>

*Islamicus*, *SOAS Bulletin*, *Die Welt des Islams*, but are too expensive for many institutions to subscribe to, despite the support of JISC. This review of user requirements will discover the needs of the UK scholarly community in this vital field, and recommend the best methodology for filling the gaps.

### **Project Aims and Methods**

- The project will use a variety of means to provide a digitisation framework for Islamic Studies collections which aims to:
  - Landscape the Islamic Studies digitised resources in the UK as well as the potential materials/collections for digitisation. This will allow identifying gaps in the provision of digitised resources.
  - Establish criteria to prioritise the potential materials/collections for digitisation.
  - Recommend best practice for determining user requirements for digitised content.
  - Establish the basis for a collaborative management of digitised collections.
  - Recommend best practice for digitising collections of Islamic Studies.
  - Recommend an efficient management to the information resources.
  
- Reading lists will be sought from all UK HE institutions which teach substantive courses on Islam, Islamic History, Islamic Philosophy and Islamic interactions with other disciplines, such as Law and Economics. These lists will be evaluated, to determine which articles and which secondary and primary texts are the most heavily used, and of these high use items, which are already available in digitised format and at what cost.
- Lists of PhD theses that are being or have been carried out in the last four years (i.e. which have been completed since 9/11) will be sought from all UK HE institutions with departments of Islamic studies. These lists will be analysed and evaluated, to determine the subjects of interest and the interest level of each.
- Web sites and portals will be evaluated and collated to establish exactly what is available in digitised form regarding primary texts. Expert advice will be sought by focus groups and one-to-one consultations with scholars to establish whether the digitised edition represents the best available text and/or translation.
- An inventory of digitisation projects and recommendations for establishing a comprehensive gateway to digitised materials in Islamic Studies and a “Virtual Training Suite” for these digitised materials will be made.
- Questionnaires and survey forms accompanied with the primary results of the above evaluations (reading lists, PhD topics and online resources) will be sent to relevant academic staff in all UK HE institutions engaged in Islamic studies (in their widest definition) to determine their priorities, differentiating between teaching and research. The recent reports by Abd al-Fattah El-Awaisi and Malory Nye *Time for change : report on the future of the study of Islam and Muslims in universities and colleges in multicultural Britain* (2006) and by Ataulloh Siddiqui *Islam at Universities in England :*

*meeting the needs and investing in the future* (2007) will help determine which institutions to survey, and will provide a framework for the project, as will other recent research undertaken by BRISMES<sup>8</sup> and others (e.g. Gary Bunt and his *Islamic Studies Pathways website*<sup>9</sup>),

- UK Librarians and Archivists with responsibility for Islamic and Middle East collections will similarly be surveyed. This survey will highlight the potential collections/archives for digitisation.
- Heads of Departments, and Directors of Undergraduate and Postgraduate Research in all UK HE institutions engaged in Islamic studies will be contacted on a one-to-one basis and interviewed, as will members of the various private Islamic academies, such as the Islamic Foundation.
- Two Focus Groups will be set up involving academics from a number of universities, and from accredited Islamic institutions of higher education and learning, representing a cross-section of opinion in British Muslim society. as well as persons engaged in existing digitisation projects, such as the Thesaurus Islamicus Foundation (incorporating the Sunna Project and the Islamic Manuscript Association), the Bibliotheca Alexandrina Digitisation Program, the AHRC Cambridge Shahnama Project, the Infoman project of the European Union, and the British Library to discuss problems priorities and solutions to digitising Islamic material.
- The best national practice<sup>10</sup> as to technical standards particularly regarding Islamic languages such as Arabic and Persian will be adopted.

## Management

The University of Exeter has very successful experience of managing and delivering projects in conjunction with the JISC. It is currently one of the partners in the LOCKSS initiative, successfully completed project SWISh regarding Shibboleth implementation and was a major partner in the JISC-funded evaluation of the Peninsula Medical School's use of a VLE. Project staff have been closely involved in many other major projects including eight EU-funded TEMPUS JEPs totalling over £10 million and led on the library workpackage for the prestigious, EU-funded Telematics for Teacher Training project in collaboration with eight EU partners.

Exeter University's Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, rated 5 in RAE 2001, hosts a dynamic group of researchers and teachers working in the fields of language and literature, history, social and political science, anthropology, and economics, all within the context of Arab, Islamic and Middle Eastern studies. The holdings of the University Library in the field of Islamic Studies are particularly significant, and have recently been incorporated into the COPAC database, although Exeter itself is not a CURL<sup>11</sup> university. The University Library has developed a dedicated site for

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<sup>8</sup> The British Society for Middle Eastern Studies.

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.lamp.ac.uk/cis/pathways>

<sup>10</sup> [http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/pub\\_digi\\_uk.aspx](http://www.jisc.ac.uk/publications/publications/pub_digi_uk.aspx) ;  
<http://www.bl.uk/services/npo/pdf/digitisation.pdf> ; <http://ahds.ac.uk/creating/guides/index.htm>

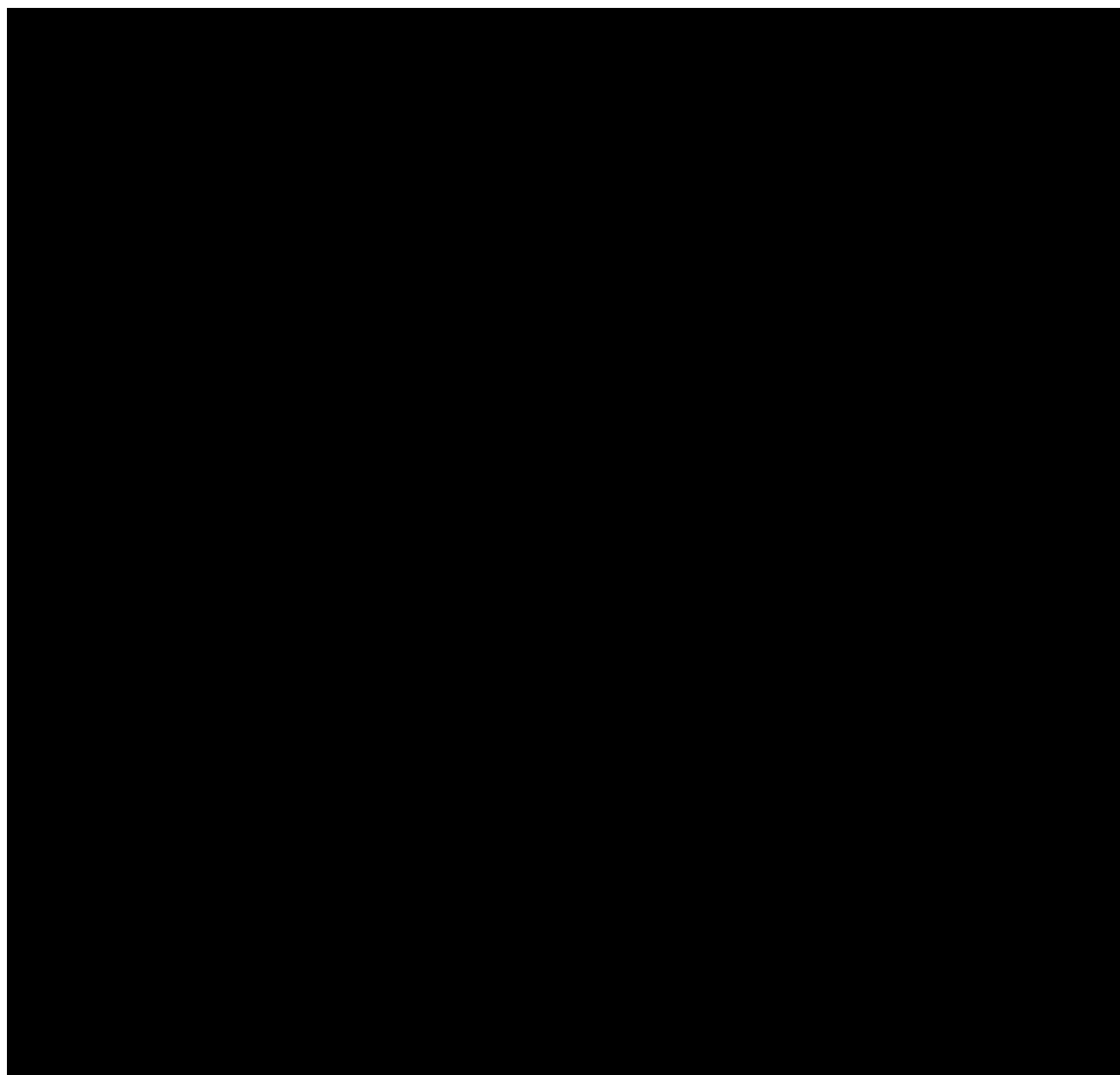
<sup>11</sup> Consortium of Research Libraries in the British Isles <http://www.curl.ac.uk/>

Internet Resources in Arabic, Islamic and Middle Eastern Studies<sup>12</sup>, which includes an evaluation of each resource cited, and hosts two librarians with extensive experience of Islamic and Middle Eastern materials.

### **Project Team**

The project team will be formed by members of the University of Exeter, and will work jointly on all aspects of the project. The team will consist of: Paul Auchterlonie, Librarian for Islamic Studies at the University since 1981 and Chair of the Middle East Libraries Committee since 1995 (Project Manager), Martin Myhill, Assistant Director for Collections and Research Support, Ahmed Abu-Zayed, Librarian for the Arab World Documentation Unit at the University since 2001 and Digital Assets Manager for the University, and Dr. Sajjad Rizvi, Senior Lecturer, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies. In addition, the team will be assisted by Dr. Sohret Howells, INTO, University of Exeter.

### **Costs**



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<sup>12</sup> <http://www.library.ex.ac.uk/internet/arabic.html>

### **Project Deliverables**

The review of user requirements for digitised resources in Islamic Studies will result a report for a UK framework to include:

- An evaluation and categorisation of existing websites, blogs and wikis on Islamic studies (particularly those produced by British Muslims), and recommendation of which websites, etc. are to be web archived.
- An accurate and comprehensive survey of UK HE views and opinions regarding the use, value and priorities of digitised Islamic materials.
- Digitisation framework for Islamic Studies collections to include:
  - Recommendations on the methodology for digitising Islamic materials, following best practice and including input from existing projects.
  - Detailed list of potential digitisation projects, divided into relevant categories (primary texts, translations, reference works, whole collections, etc.) with a priority level.
  - A course pack of digitised materials for teaching Islamic studies will be put together from existing materials plus those recommended for digitisation.
  - Recommendations for a UK-based categorised portal for Islamic Studies.

Also, web pages will be dedicated for the review.

### **Work Plan**

- March-April 2008 – Evaluate websites and recently completed PhDs; work on best practise for digitisation standards.
- March 2008 – Design and send out questionnaires and solicit reading lists; interview librarians and archivists ; organise the focus groups

- April 2008 – Analyze questionnaires and reading lists; interview heads of departments and programme directors; hold focus groups.
- May 2008 - Evaluate focus group discussions and interviews with academics; hold workshop of interested parties (by mid-May); produce report (by end-May).

### Risk Assessment

<i>Nature</i>	<i>Level</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>How risk can be minimised</i>
Project not keeping to schedule	medium	Delays to project	Effective management and preparation starts once decision has been made by JISC
Difficulty in realising priorities in digitisation	medium	Exclusion of potentially valuable material	Effective questionnaire design and interview technique and well-managed focus group
Budget overrun	medium	Incomplete deliverables	Effective coordination of activities
Low response to questionnaire	medium	Inaccurate conclusions	Effective questionnaire online/post
Deviating from the scope of the review	medium	unnecessary information and Incomplete deliverables	Clear definitions for terms and scope, and checking in every stage against the aims and objectives during the project life

### Project management

With such a small group involved, all of whom have long-standing expertise in at least one of the areas involved in the project, and all of whom have worked together in the past, we do not anticipate any management problems. Paul Auchterlonie has been working as a librarian and information specialist in the field of Islamic and Middle Eastern for over 35 years, and has published on the web a substantial guide to Islamic and Middle Eastern web resources. He was also Project Manager for the Follett Retrocon project of 1994-1997. Martin Myhill has over 25 years experience as a librarian and had headed numerous internal Exeter projects, and externally has directed international Tempus projects in Mongolia and Russia, as well as projects for the JISC. Ahmed Abu-Zayed has been Digital Assets Manager at the University of Exeter since the post was created and has considerable experience in handling contemporary documentation from the Arab world as well as over 15 years' experience as librarian in diverse kinds of libraries. Sajjad Rizvi has six years' experience of teaching Islamic studies at the Universities of Exeter and Bristol and has a wide range of research interests in Islamic studies, ranging from philosophy to contemporary Muslims in Britain. Dr. Sohret Howells has a Ph.D. in Marketing and many years' expertise in the design and evaluation of questionnaires and other sampling techniques.

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15 January 2008

**JISC ITT: Review of User Requirements for Digitised Resources in Islamic Studies**

I am pleased to offer my full support, on behalf of the University of Exeter, to the enclosed bid led by Paul Auchterlonie in response to this review. The University of Exeter is very well-placed to undertake this project given its long-term expertise in the field of Arabic and Islamic Studies and international recognition given to our very significant library collections in this area. The proposed team includes colleagues with very strong reputations in resourcing teaching and research in Arabic and Islamic Studies as well as long-standing and proven expertise in the successful delivery of similar projects. Where necessary, this portfolio will be supported by other colleagues reflecting Exeter's sustained position as a leading, research-led institution in the UK.

Yours sincerely,



Michele Shoebridge  
Director of Academic Services

### **To whom it may concern**

15 January 2008

Dear Mr Abu-Zayed,

I have read with great interest the details of your joint application together with other Library and academic colleagues for a grant to study the requirements of digitised resources for researchers in the field of Islamic Studies.

As director of the Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies at the University of Exeter, I can hardly contain my excitement at the prospect of such project coming to fruition.

This project will be vital in terms of economising in storage space, long term preservation as well as online accessibility. Also, it will open new horizons for online access to Islamic collections to countless scholars and researchers in a multiplicity of institutions and organisations worldwide.

The Islamic Studies collection at the University of Exeter is internationally recognized for its uniqueness in its own right. The idea that such a collection could join forces with parallel collections at a wide range of other institutions in a full text digitisation project that will be available not only to academic and non-academic researchers is indeed one whose immediate benefits are too obvious to need statement. The project is also coming not a day too soon, with digitisation and online accessibility increasingly becoming the order of the day.

As a researcher and the leader of a large team of fellow researchers, I fully support the application and wish it the success it deserves.

Best wishes,

Rasheed El-Enany

**Professor Rasheed El-Enany**  
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## CURRICULUM VITAE

**Surname:** Auchterlonie  
**Forenames** James Paul Crawford  
**Date of Birth** 22/05/1948  
**Nationality** British  
**Gender** Male  
**Education** 1970 - M.A. in Oriental Studies (Arabic), University of Oxford  
1972 - Diploma in Library Science, University College, London  
**Employment** 1970-71 - Junior Arabic Cataloguer, School of Oriental and African Studies Library, London  
1972-81 - Assistant Librarian for Arabic and Islamic Studies, University of Lancaster Library  
1981-2007 - Subject Librarian for Middle Eastern and Hispanic Studies, University of Exeter Library  
1994-2007 - Sub-Librarian in charge of the Old Library Building and Member of the Exeter University Library's Senior Management Team,  
2000-2002 - Member of the European Union TEMPUS team's projects on Uzbekistan and Mongolia  
2005-2006 – Member of the University of Exeter team advising on higher education in Iraqi Kurdistan  
2007 - Collections Manager for the University Library and Librarian for Middle Eastern Studies, University of Exeter Library

### Publications

- a) Books** 1977 (with Y.H.Safadi) *Union Catalogue of Arabic Serials and Newspapers in British Libraries* (London: Mansell)  
1987 *Arabic Biographical Dictionaries: a Summary Guide and Bibliography* (Durham: MELCOM)  
1998 *Yemen. Revised Edition. (World Bibliographical Series)* (Oxford and Santa Barbara: Clio Press)
- b) Editions** 1982 *Collections in British Libraries on Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies* (Durham: University of Durham) (author of 3 chapters)  
1986 *Middle East and Islam: a Bibliographical Introduction, 1977-1983* (Zug: IDC) (author of 4 chapters)  
1990 *Introductory Guide to Middle Eastern and Islamic Bibliography* (Oxford: MELCOM) (author of 4 chapters)
- c) Articles** 1976 "British Books on Islam and the Muslim World since 1970" in *British Book News*, Summer, p. 397-405.  
1977 "Recent Publications from Italy on the Middle East" in *Bulletin/British Society for Middle Eastern Studies*, 4, p. 57-60.  
1977 "Arabic Grammars" and "Middle Eastern Libraries" in *Arab Islamic Bibliography*, ed. D. Grimwood-Jones et al. (Hassocks, Sussex: Harvester Press), p. 70-77 & 235-65.  
1981 "A Guide to Cairo Bookshops and the Cairo International Book Fair" in *Bulletin/British Society for Middle Eastern Studies*, 8, i, p. 51-9.  
1981 "British Library Collections on Islam and the Muslim World and some Problems of Acquisition" in *New Books Quarterly on Islam and the Muslim World*, 1, ii, p. 29-37.  
1983 "Reader Instruction in Middle Eastern Studies" in *Bulletin/British Society for Middle Eastern Studies*, 10, p. 153-7.  
1983 "Muslim Geographers and Travellers to Iran, 7-15<sup>th</sup> Centuries" in *Bibliographical Guide to Iran*, ed. L.P.

Elwell-Sutton (Hassocks, Sussex: Harvester Press), p. 134-42.

**1986** "Some Western Views of the Arab Gulf" in *Arabia and the Gulf*, ed. I.R. Netton (London: Croom Helm), p. 43-56.

**1986** "The Development of Arabic Studies in Britain" and "The Coverage and Distribution of Modern Arabic Books in British Libraries" in *Arabic Resources*, ed. D. Burnett (London: Mansell), p. 1-10 & 121-32.

**2000** "A Turk of the West: the Career of Sir Edgar Vincent in Egypt and the Ottoman Empire" in *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 28, p. 49-67.

**2001** "From the Eastern Question to the Death of General Gordon: Representations of the Middle East in the Victorian Periodical Press, 1876-1885" in *British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies*, 28, p. 5-24 (Originally given as the first James D. Pearson Memorial Lecture)

**2004** "Historians and the Arabic Biographical Dictionary: Some New Approaches" in *Islamic Reflections, Arabic Musings: Studies in Honour of Professor Alan Jones*. ed. R.G. Hoyland & P.F.Kennedy (Cambridge : Gibb Memorial Trust), p. 186-200.

**2005** "The Acquisition of Arabic Books by British Libraries Twenty Years on: Progress or Decline?" *Library Collections, Acquisitions and Technical Services*, 29, p. 140-8.

### **Professional Membership**

1972- **MELCOM (UK)** - formerly known as the Middle East Libraries Committee (Secretary, 1975-85, Chair 1985-90, Treasurer 1990-95, Chair, 1995- )

1979- **MELCOM International** (founding secretary and conference convener, 1979-1987; email listowner Lis-Middle-East, 1999- )

1979- **SCONUL Advisory Committee on Oriental Materials** (also known by other names) (Committee member 1980-89; Steering Committee member for *Mapping Asia Project*, 2001-2003)

1974-97, 2000- Fellow of the **British Society for Middle Eastern Studies** (Bibliographical Book Review Editor of the Society's *Bulletin* 1976-80; Member of Council 1979-81; Convenor of the Annual Conference with Dr. T.C. Niblock - 1987)

# Martin Myhill

## Contact details:

### Work:

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Exeter, Devon  
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Telephone(w) : (01392) 263870 Fax: (01392) 263871

E-mail: M.R.Myhill@Exeter.ac.uk

## Career details

- Currently **Assistant Director, Collections and Research Support (Academic Services)**, University of Exeter (July 2007- )
- Formerly Acting University Librarian , University of Exeter (June 2005-June 2007)
- Formerly Deputy Librarian, University of Exeter Library (1997-2005)
- Formerly: Librarian of the St Luke's Campus Library, University of Exeter (1992-2002)
- Formerly: Sub-Librarian (Resources) in charge of the School of Education Library ([now St Luke's Campus Library](#)), University of Exeter and with responsibility for Administration, Personnel and Information Technology applications at the University of Exeter Library. (1997-2002)
- Assistant Librarian Readers' Services, University of Exeter Main Library (1989-1992)
- Senior Library Assistant Readers' Services, University of Exeter Main Library (1980-1989)

## Professional qualifications

- B.A. (Hons) in Economic & Social History, University of Exeter 1975-78
- M.A. in Information Studies, University of Sheffield 1979-80
- Library Association charter (A.L.A.) 1981

## National Offices

- Past Chair (1996-98) of [Librarians of Institutes and Schools of Education \(LISE\)](#)

## Recent publications

- Smartcards in libraries: a brave new world *The Electronic Library* Vol 16 No. 1 February 1998 pp17-24.
- Managing the Web - the University of Exeter experience. in Hanson, Terry and Day, Joan *Managing the Electronic Library* . Bowker Saur: London. 1998. pp.605-622. (With [Ian Tilsed](#)).
- [Time for change. A personal insight into library systems' implementation: experiences at Exeter University Library.](#) *Program* Vol 34 No. 1 January 2000 pp89-101.
- Correspondent for *JISC 5/99 British Education Portal*
- Reviews Editor *Research Papers in Education* 2001-2005
- List owner, *Lis-LISE* 1996-
- [Snakes and Ladders: towards a post-maturity evaluation index of integrated library system ownership](#) *Program* Vol. 38 No. 3 pp 110-119, 2004.
- Editorial Board, [Program](#), 2004 -
- [A MAP for the library portal: through the labyrinth of online information sources](#) *Online Information Review* Vol. 29 No. 1 pp5-17, 2005
- [Google Scholar - a review](#) *The Charleston ADVISOR* Vol. 6 No. 4 April 2005
- Just what I wanted! The perfect Christmas gift - Google scholar - or is it?. *SCONUL FOCUS* (1745-5782) No. 34 (2005), p42-43.
- Finger on the pulse: Where seagulls dare. *Managing Information* Vol. 12 No. 8 (2005), p.10
- State of the art linking and federated search - the MAP (Millennium Access Plus) library portal development and experience *Online information conference proceedings* November 2005. (with Ted Fons, Senior Product Manager, Innovative Interfaces Inc. USA)

- [House of Commons Parliamentary Papers online \(HCPP\) - 19th Century - a review](#) *The Charleston ADVISOR* Vol. 7 No. 4 April 2006
- Canute rules the waves? Hope for e-library tools facing the challenge of the 'Google Generation'. *Program* Vol. 41 No. 1 February 2007

## Conferences/current interests

### **DISTANCE LEARNING USING ELECTRONIC INFORMATION SOURCES:**

- Telematics and Education Librarians. Joint LISE/T3 conference, Utrecht. 27th February to 1st March, 1998. (organiser)
- Integration with Europe - UC&R (SW) Seminar, UWE Bristol, July 8th 1998.
- Perrault revisited - the Fairy tale of library systems' migration - MICROLIB99, May 1999, Lisbon.
- [MMIT CONFERENCE: PORTALS PORTALS EVERYWHERE](#), London, July 2004.
- State of the art linking and federated search - the MAP (Millennium Access Plus) library portal development and experience *Online information conference, London Olympia* November 2005. (with Ted Fons, Senior Product Manager, Innovative Interfaces Inc. USA)

### **SMARTCARD TECHNOLOGY APPLICATIONS IN LIBRARIES**

- Has Christmas come early to Exeter? - Library aspects of the introduction of smartcard technology. 17 Dec 1996. Seminar organiser.
- Smartcards in Libraries:the way ahead - Oxford Libraries Conference, March 19th, 1998.

### **DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRONIC INFORMATION RESOURCES:**

- University of Exeter Library [INNOPAC](#) system - coordinator and contact. (attended [INNOPAC User Group Meetings](#): 9th INNOPAC User Group Meeting, Santa Clara, CA, May 2001, 10th INNOPAC User Group Meeting in Houston, TX, April 2002, 11th INNOPAC User Group Meeting in San Jose, CA, April 2003, 12th INNOPAC User Group Meeting in Boston, MA, April 2004, 13th INNOPAC User Group Meeting in San Francisco, CA, May 2005 and 14th INNOPAC User Group Meeting in Denver, CO, May 2006.
- Member of the management board for JISC-funded DiVLE programme project [Evaluation of links between VLE and Digital Libraries in a new medical school](#)
- Member of the management board for JISC Project (Core middleware, early adopters) [SWISH](#)
- Exeter lead on JISC-funded LOCKSS project

### **LIBRARIES IN EASTERN EUROPE, MONGOLIA & THE FORMER SOVIET UNION:**

- Member of the management team, Library/IT consultant: [ISTORIYA](#) JEP TEMPUS/TACIS 1994-1997: History teaching in Yaroslavl' (Conference paper on the history of the EU presented February 1995). Visits May 1994, February 1995, September 1995, July 1996 and January 1997.
- TARIKH JEP TEMPUS/TACIS 1995-98: History teaching in Tashkent, visited December 1994 (during pre-JEP phase) and July 1996. Attended management meeting in Paris, January 1995. Partners are the Frederiksborg Seminarium, Copenhagen, Denmark, the University of Rennes II, France and the Tashkent State University, Uzbekistan.
- Coordinator for Project MARCO: Mongolian-based Advances in Resourcing and Curriculum Organisation. Attended coordinators' meeting in Turin, November 1995. A pre-JEP [TEMPUS](#)/TACIS Project 1995-96. Partners are the University of Bielefeld, Germany and the Mongolian State Pedagogical University, Ulaanbataar. Full JEP awarded 1997-1999
- Paterson) at [Warsaw University of Technology Library, Poland](#), December 2004.

### **TELEMATICS FOR TEACHER TRAINING (T3)**

- Co-ordinator for Work Package 08 (Libraries) - [Telematics Project](#) with partners in Ghent, Utrecht, Minho (Braga), Oulu, Grenoble and Genova.

# Ahmed Abu Zayed

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## EMPLOYMENT

**Jan. 07 – present**

**Digital Assets Manager, University of Exeter, UK**

- Creation, implementation and development of a Digital Assets strategy in support of the aims of the University's corporate plan.
- Responsibility for the management and development of systems and services critical to the Digital Assets strategy.
- Ensuring that the provision of digital assets reflects the highest quality, user-focused learning and research support and information activities.
- Liaison on Academic Services-related matters with Team Leaders and Schools to ensure appropriate provision of resources and compliance with procedures.
- Instigation and assistance with major research bids relating to Academic services.
- Managing the collections of Arab World Documentation Unit.
- Managing the Exeter Research and Information Content archive (ERIC)

**01/09/01 – 31/12/06**

**AWDU Librarian, Arab World Documentation Unit,  
University of Exeter, UK**

- Managing the Arab World Documentation Unit and its collections;
- Restructuring the Documentation Unit and devising a new collection management policy;
- Planning and developing the standards and criteria of library services;
- Developing new policies, proposals and initiatives;
- Designing and teaching Information Literacy module for postgraduates and year 1 students;
- Providing reference service and marketing the library services nationally and internationally.
- Member of University of Exeter Information skills committee and E-resources committee.
- Leading the international students' process review panel at the University.
- Training and supervising 3 principle library assistants.

**1/10/97 – 31/8/2001**

**the Librarian, of Dubai Chamber of Commerce &  
Industry (DCCI), UAE**

- Preparing and introducing new methods, techniques and information technologies aimed at improving the efficiency and effectiveness of the processes performed by library staff;
- Ensuring the quality and integrity of technical services processes by controlling the throughput of ordering, delivery, receiving, cataloguing and final processing of library materials;
- Preparing and planning library budget, expenditures and library financial report;
- Maintaining and administration of the library's integrated system (Horizon) and the electronic resources;
- Laying down the library policy and procedures;
- Designing, editing and maintaining the library website.
- Supervising 5 library assistants.

**25/8/96 - 31/8/97**

**Library Specialist, Central Library of the United Arab  
Emirates University, UAE**

- Providing reference services to students, faculty and community;
- Providing IT support to the campus libraries;
- Participating in determining circulation policy and procedures;
- Issuing monthly circulation statistics and reports;
- Participating in cataloguing projects;
- Training new staff, and preparing course material.

**Mar.95 - Aug.96**

**Head of Circulation Department, Mubarak Public Library,  
Egypt**

- Library staffing and scheduling;
- Supervising, training and evaluating 5 full-time staff members;
- Issuing monthly circulation statistics;
- Planning the implementation of the circulation module of the integrated library system;
- Laying down circulation policy and procedures;
- Training library staff on the use of the ALEPH integrated system (cataloguing, acquisition and circulation modules).

**June 94 - Feb. 95**

**Library Specialist, Mubarak Public Library, Egypt**

- Actively participated in the initial set-up of the library a year before its inauguration;
- Cataloguing library material;
- Maintaining bibliographic records and authority records;
- Providing reference services.

**Aug.92 - Aug.93**

**Information Specialist, Scientific and Technological Information Services Center, Tanta University, Egypt**

- Cataloguing scientific theses.;
- Providing reference services through on-line databases.

**June 91 - Aug. 93**

**Computer Instructor, " I.B.I." Institute and Reem Company for Computer & Electricity, Egypt**

- Teaching Databases, operating systems, Word Processing and Graphics.

## EDUCATION

2003

**M. Sc.** Library & Information Management, University of Central England in Birmingham, UK.  
(*collection management policy at the University of Exeter*)

1992

**B.A.** in Archives and Library Science, Faculty of Arts, Tanta University, Egypt.

## IT SKILLS

- Excellent knowledge of various library automated systems such as "Aleph", "VTLS", "Innovative" and "Horizon";
- Excellent knowledge of software applications and operating systems;
- Diagnosing hardware & software problems;
- Excellent knowledge of multimedia presentations.

## MANAGEMENT SKILLS

Attending various training courses on Management (on regular basis) such as:

- Communication skills
- Decision making
- Negotiations
- Team Leading
- Time Management
- Teaching Skills
- Presentation Skills.

## LANGUAGES

- Arabic: Mother tongue.
- English: Excellent.

## OTHER INFORMATION

- Designing the information literacy modules on WebCT.
- Member of Chartered Management Institute, UK
- Member of MELCOM UK and MELCOM International (Middle East Libraries Committee)
- Conference papers in Bibliothèque nationale de France (BnF), Bibliotheca Alexandrina and others on Acquisition from the Middle East and resources on the Middle East.

Sajjad H. Rizvi  
Senior Lecturer in Islamic Studies  
Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies  
University of Exeter  
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E-mail: s.h.rizvi@ex.ac.uk

Education:

BA (Hons) Modern History, Christ Church, Oxford 1994  
MPhil Modern Middle East Studies, St. Hugh's College, Oxford 1996  
**PhD Islamic Studies (Faculty of Oriental Studies), Pembroke College, Cambridge 2000**

Academic Posts:

Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in Qur'anic Studies, Institute of Ismaili Studies, London 2001-2

Research Associate and Lecturer in Islamic Philosophy, Department of Theology and Religious Studies, University of Bristol 2002-4

**Senior Lecturer (and previously Lecturer) in Islamic Studies, Institute of Arab and Islamic Studies, University of Exeter 2004-**

Selected Publications:

Books:

***Mulla Sadra Shirazi: His Life, Works and the Sources for Safavid Philosophy*, JSS Supplements vol 18, Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2007.**

With Feras Hamza, *Understanding the Word of God: An Anthology of Qur'anic Commentaries*, Oxford: Oxford University Press, in press (expected publication November 2008).

*Mulla Sadra on the One and the Many*, London: Routledge, forthcoming (2008).

*Mulla Sadra and the Later Islamic Philosophical Tradition*, Edinburgh: Edinburgh University Press, contracted (submission January 2009).

*Mir Damad, Makers of the Muslim World*, Oxford: Oneworld Publications, contracted (submission summer 2009).

Articles and Chapters:

'Reviving Neoplatonism in the light of the Imams', in P. Adamson (ed), *Classical Arabic Philosophy: Sources and Reception*, London: The Warburg Institute, 2007, 176–208.

'Au-dela du miroir: Mulla Sadra's epistemology', in M. Sebti & D. de Smet (eds), *Savoir et miroir*, Leuven : Peeters, 2007, 251–71.

'The existential breath of the Merciful and the munificent agency of the Compassionate', *Journal of Qur'anic Studies* 8 (2006), 58–87.

'Between time and eternity: Mir Damad on God's creative agency', *Journal of Islamic Studies* 17 (2006), 158–76.

'Mulla Sadra on causation', *Philosophy East and West* 55 (2005), 570–83.

'Ibn `Arabi and Mulla Sadra: Mysticism and philosophy', in P. Adamson & R. Taylor (eds), *The Cambridge Companion to Arabic Philosophy*, Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 2005, 224–46.

'Being and sanctity: two poles of intellectual and mystical inquiry in Qajar Iran', in R. Gleave (ed), *Religion and Society in Qajar Iran*, London: Routledge, 2005, 113–26.

'Process metaphysics in Islam? Avicenna and Mulla Sadra on intensification in being', in D. Reisman & A. al-Rahim, Leiden: Brill, 2002, 233–48.

Encyclopaedia Entries:

'Mulla Sadra', *Stanford Encyclopaedia of Philosophy* <http://plato.stanford.edu>

'Molla Sadra', 'Mir Damad', 'Qazi Sa`id Qommi', 'Mir Fendereski', *Encyclopaedia Iranica* <http://www/iranica.com>

Research Languages:

Arabic, Persian, Urdu, French, Spanish

Some competency in Hebrew, Sanskrit, German, Swahili

Research Affiliations and Grants:

Qur'anic Studies Unit, Institute of Ismaili Studies, London 2002-

Membre d'équipe, *Noétique et connaissance dans la philosophie arabo-musulmane*, CNRS

UPR 76, Villejuif- Paris, 2006-9

Research Member for *Theologia Aristotelis*, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, Italy 2006-9

Research Affiliate, Zakir Hussain Institute of Islamic Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi 2007-

British Academy Grant on *Islamic Intellectual Traditions in India, 1450-1850*, 2007–2008.

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Dr. SÖHRET B. HOWELLS (PhD, MBA, BSc, Cert.Ed.)

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#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Employer	Dates	Position & duties
<b>INTO University of Exeter</b>	01/08-	<b>Lecturer:</b> Lecturing and tutoring <b>Marketing Management</b> on Graduate Certificate in Management (with English) Programme; <b>Introduction to Management</b> on Foundation Certificate in Economics, Finance and Management Programme; <b>Dissertation</b> guidance
<b>Open University</b>	10/07-	<b>Associate Lecturer:</b> Lecturing, tutoring and supervising research projects of level 3 students on B300 course (Business behaviour in a changing world)
<b>Reuters Co.</b> Finsbury House, Lowman Way, Tiverton Business Park, Tiverton, EX16 6SR	04/06-08/07	<b>Market Analyst:</b> Responsible for all 360+ Turkish companies trading in the Istanbul Exchange. Duties include collating various data (mainly financial) using a variety of on-line sources and preparing reports on companies for several data-bases and products which aid customers in investment decisions. Also responsible for training other colleagues. Won a prize in timeliness and accuracy of productivity.
<b>Exeter College</b> CCI Building, Exeter	05/02-05/06	<b>Associate Lecturer:</b> Tutoring and lecturing on various HE and FE Business and Management courses including Foundation Degrees, HNDs, HNCs, DMS and Diplomas.
<b>East Devon College</b> Bolham Road, Tiverton, Devon, EX4 4EP	09/96-06/02	<b>Head of Tourism &amp; Business in HE:</b> Started as a part-time lecturer of tourism marketing and became the head of the department in less than six months. Duties included managing the department; tutoring and lecturing on HND, Dip HE and Diplomas in Tourism and Business; coordinating internal and external verifications, schemes of work, holidays and cover of staff and interviewing new staff and students.
<b>Mount St. Mary's Convent School, Exeter</b>	09/95-08/97	<b>Head of Business Studies "Advanced Level":</b> Lecturing and tutoring the Business Studies "A" level group.
<b>Tatkum Ltd., Nicosia</b>	07/87-03/02	<b>Marketing Manager (Export-Import Manager):</b> Managing all aspects of export and import of white goods ranging from determining demand to advertising. Several promotions received in a short period of time.
<b>Devtex Hosiery Co., Nicosia</b>	07/85-06/87	<b>Production Manager:</b> Managing the smooth operation of production, and exports connections with variety of countries.

#### ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS

Qualification Gained	Year	Institution of Higher Education
<b>Certificate of Education</b>	2001	University of Plymouth
<b>The Further and Adult Education Teacher's Certificate</b>	2000	University of Plymouth
<b>PhD</b> (The Social and Cultural Impacts of Tourism and the Tourist Motivation)	2000	University of Exeter, Centre for European Studies
<b>Certificate of Counselling, OCNSW</b>	1999	East Devon College, Tiverton
<b>MBA</b> (General)	1993	University of Exeter
<b>BSc in Management</b>	1985	Middle East Technical University, Ankara

## ACADEMIC PRIZES

**Honours (Distinction)** in Fall 1980, Spring 1981, Spring 1984, Fall 1984, Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey

## OTHER SKILLS

**ICT:** Good command of various ICT including: Microsoft Office; Word; Excel; PowerPoint; E-mail; messenger communication; various data-bases, and on-line conferencing.

## LANGUAGE QUALIFICATIONS

**Turkish** Native language  
**English** Fluent, TOEFL Score: 623, January 1990  
**French** Fair, Institut D'etudes Francaises D'Ankara (D-de vive voix), July 1985, Certificat du Centre Culturel Francais de Nicosia (Chypre) 1986  
**German** Fluent in speech, fair in writing, Deutsches Kulturinstitut Ankara (Kurs GIA/B) May 1985, Turkish Zyprisch Deutcher Kulturverei Teilnahmebestatigung Klasse:III 1989-1990

## PUBLICATIONS

**Howells, S. B. (2000)** "Social and Cultural Impacts of Tourism and the Tourist Motivation: Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) As A Case Study" in **Robinson et al. (eds.) Motivations, Behaviour and Tourist Types: Reflections on International Tourism**, Sunderland: Business Education Publishers Limited.

**Howells, S. B. (2000)** "Is There A "Socio-cultural Friendly" Tourist?: Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus as a Case Study" in **Bozkurt, I. (ed.) Proceedings of the Third International Congress for Cyprus Studies**, Eastern Mediterranean University Publications.

**Howells, S. B. (2002)** "Nationality of the Tourist: Does it matter in terms of Impact Management?: in **Bozkurt, I. (ed.) Proceedings of the Fourth International Congress for Cyprus Studies**, Eastern Mediterranean University Publications.

## PERSONAL INTERESTS AND ACTIVITIES

- Pianist** Passed **grade 8 (Final)**, Royal School of Music, London, 1980, performed at several concerts.
- Artist** Took part in various exhibitions from 1989-1992 in North Cyprus. Participated in two joint exhibitions in Exeter (December, 2000 & April 2001). Member **Exeter Artspace** since September 2007. Joined Art exhibition on 31<sup>st</sup> November, 2007.
- Dancer** **Gold** Medal in **Latin Dancing**, IDTA (International Dance Teachers Association), UK, June 1994; **Silver** Medal in **Modern Dancing**, IDTA, UK, June 1994; **Silver** Medal in Rock & Roll, IDTA, UK, June 1994, represented University of Exeter for Latin American amateur competition in Torquay, June 1994. Social secretary of Ballroom Dancing Society 1995, University of Exeter. Won **third** position both in Ballroom and Latin Social categories in English Riviera Dance Festival, Torquay in June 2004.
- EFS** **Exeter Film Society (at the Phoenix)** Executive Committee member, and marketing consultant. Recently carried out survey on customer profile.
- RD&E** **RD&E NHS Foundation Trust - Member**
- EEL** **Exeter Ethiopia Link:** Member.
- Sports** Walking, Pilates.