

*This submission relate to **Faculty of Land and Food Resources Library Committee** submission to the Information Futures Commission. Comments are listed under the headings used in that paper.*

These observations are my personal views and have been formed as a result of my role as a staff member at the Burnley Library and as a member of a Faculty of Land and Food Resources community at a non-Parkville site.

Kat Frame, Burnley Campus Library. 9/5/08

There is a need for Information Services to express a vision and develop a plan for extending the services provided to the Parkville Campus to the FLFR campuses. The challenges faced by students and staff at these campuses are apparent on a daily basis.

Maintaining access to the best information.

Information Services needs to specifically address the disadvantage that researchers, academics and students face in accessing scholarly resources because geographic isolation. Specific policies need to be developed and additional funding needs to be made available to enable resources to be purchased in electronic formats to support collaborative research and teaching programs. This cannot be achieved with the existing funding levels allocated to the Faculty.

Staff and students within the Faculty need timely access to printed resources held at other campuses and increasingly material held in library stores. The needs of staff and students who are not at the Parkville site should be considered in relation to the development and improvement of internal retrieval services.

Ensuring that regional campuses are well-serviced in terms of information and have access to the latest developments in information services.

The existing library buildings at the Burnley, Creswick and Dookie Campuses are physically outdated and are not located within main buildings or co-located with other campus services. The process of developing master plans to direct future use and facilities at these campuses has commenced. Information Services needs to be actively involved in this process and should be partnering with the Faculty to plan for new facilities at these sites to create teaching and learning hubs, with new libraries as a central component of any new campus facilities. Information Services should make a commitment to co-invest and creatively source funds to support the development of new facilities when the opportunities are presented.

Developing methods for sharing resources and people, working collaboratively across multiple campuses and linking with national and international partners.

The Library staff at the various LFR campuses are natural local contact points for the Faculty with the specialist research, teaching and learning services available within Information Services. Library staff should have a role in facilitating the Faculty's optimal use of specialist services.