Independent Learning Centres
Annual Report
AY 2012/13
Executive Summary

The ADMC ILC has seen many changes over the past academic year. A new ILC Librarian arrived in October and the ILC is currently undergoing renovations. One of the major initiatives this year, was the successful trialling of two reading programmes, M-Reader and Scholastic Reading Counts. These pilot programmes were undertaken by the Foundations students in Semester 2 after intense preparation in Semester 1. The aim of the programme was to improve reading and overall English skills. As can be seen by the attached graph, the amount of independent reading has dramatically risen this semester. Due to the success of the programme, the ILC Librarian, along with two faculty members presented at TESOL Arabia in March, 2013. On June 3rd, an awards presentation will occur to celebrate student/class achievement.

Another initiative was the piloting of sequential Information Literacy classes to selected Liberal Studies classes. These took place over the first half of Semester 2 and covered basic research skills. Due to the success of the programme, this will be extended and cover other classes in General Education. This will be in conjunction with the Information Literacy programme undertaken across ADMC in Semester 1 (outlined in Goals for Next Year).
Official name of facility Independent Learning Centre

Campus student numbers AY 2012/13 2193

Staffing structure

Louise Sikkens – ILC Librarian
Etchel Barina – ILC Assistant (permanent)
Dina Mooney – ILC Assistant (temporary)

Facilities & Services

The main focus for our ILC has been Information Literacy and Reading support. Other major services that the ILC have offered over the past academic year include, student/teacher orientation and support with online material, ongoing assistance for classes using the ILC facilities and a new initiative; contributing to the online newsletters for faculty and students.

Resources

During the past academic year, arrangements have been made to upgrade the resources of the ILC. The demand for use of the ILC in certain periods, exceeds our current capabilities (please see attached graph of class usage, this does not include independent usage). The laptops were replaced and ongoing renovations will be finished by July of this year. The upgrade allows us to have 4 classes using the facilities at a time, up from 3 classes.

The improvements are as follows:

Current
• Wireless Laptops: 56
• iMacs: 9
• iPads: 6 (iPad 3)
• Furniture: 71 Computer stations/chairs
• Capacity: 3 classes

July, 2013
• Wireless Laptops: 16 new laptops 70 (student) 2 (faculty )
• iMacs: 9
• iPads:6 (upgrade to iPad 4)
• Furniture: 104 Computer stations/chairs
• Capacity: 4 classes
Learning Technologies

Over the past academic year, the ILC staff have been working hard to support teachers and students in new learning technologies. We have an iPad centre where students and teachers are able to seek advice and support on the new mobile technology and we are consistently trialling new apps, in collaboration with the ADMC faculty.

Beginning in Semester 1, we updated our ILC website to include links for Maths and Physics and have created new links in all other areas. Also, we have labelled appropriate links with an iPad compatibility logo (please refer to screenshots). During the first semester, we added a playlist of valuable Youtube videos to our iMacs to support students in using different apps and research skills.

Student Support

The ADMC ILC have continued to offer on-going support to its students and faculty in a variety of ways. This includes ‘drop in’ sessions for students who need support with their research and assignments, individual and class orientations on online programmes offered, IT support when using iPads, laptops and iMacs and information literacy lessons for faculty and students.
Curriculum Support & Collaboration

Due to the fact that the majority of Foundations classes use the ILC regularly, we are the liaison team for General Education. We support this faculty in resourcing material, budgeting, locating and managing appropriate programmes (Reading pilot) and the administration of online programmes (eg. Clarity).

During the academic year, two new libraries/ILCs have been established at Naval and KBZ. We have assisted the staff in the administration/registration of online programmes, lending of resources and sharing marketing display ideas.

Promotion & Advocacy

ADMC hosts many VIP Tours throughout the year. Part of the tour involves a presentation in the ILC on mobile learning technology. The ILC Librarian shares the duty of presenting at these tours with the Reference Librarian. This promotes the ILC across the UAE and overseas.

Another promotional tool we are constantly updating, is the marketing displays across the ILC, both print and online. We advertise the programmes we have available and current events happening in the ILC.

ILC Web link(s)

http://abudhabimenscollegelibrary.blogspot.ae (faculty)
http://admclibrarystudentnews.blogspot.ae (students)
Community Outreach

Throughout the academic year, the ILC has supported our ‘community borrowers’ by assisting with research needs and providing an orientation of our facilities. We have also held open days for the public and shared information with Khalifa University and the Dubai Colleges.

Professional Development

The ILC staff has continued ongoing professional development over the past two semesters. As a staff, we have participated in Clarity training, online training (Britannica, Oxford Bookworms, IEEE, MIS, Science Direct), training in Learning Disabilities and iPad training (iCelebrate).

During Semester 2, the ILC Librarian has facilitated training in reading programmes (TESOL Arabia) and bibliographies (PD Week). Various professional development sessions were undertaken by the ILC Librarian since October. This includes training in Bb Collaborate, iTunes, iBook Author and ATLRC/special needs.

Special Responsibilities

Over the past two semesters, the ILC Librarian has been involved in two major ADMC committees. As part of the Strategic Planning Team (Teaching and Learning), work has been undertaken on developing the goals and direction of ADMC. This has led to the introduction of the intensive information literacy course being added to the curriculum for first year students.

During Semester 2, in line with HCT strategic planning, the ILC Librarian has been involved in the ‘Learn by Doing’ committee to develop goals and strategies for our college. The ILC Librarian is also the college representative for the system-wide ILC group.

Goals for Next Year

The major goals for the ADMC ILC for the next academic year are as follows:

- An intensive, long-term Information Literacy programme for Year 1 students in collaboration with the Ed Tech Department. This includes developing online modules and support services on BbLearn.
- An extension of Information Literacy services offered to all ADMC students.
- Expansion of the current Reading programmes across the ADMC campus.
- The introduction of a Career Centre, supported by the ILC staff.