

Session 1 – 22nd 14.00-15.30m

Tema: Libraries and learning/teaching

Sala: B029

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AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH (ACER)

Australian Educational Research Gateway: disseminating research-based knowledge and professional resources and services to improve learning and research

ABSTRACT

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH (ACER)

ACER's mission is to “create and promote research-based knowledge, products and services that can be used to improve learning”. See web site www.acer.edu.au

The ultimate goal of ACER's work is to improve outcome for learners. Learners and learning are at the heart of our mission. The goal is to improve the quality of learning (including the development of knowledge, skills, understandings, attitudes and values) across a wide variety of formal and informal contexts. As a research organisation, we attempt to do this through reliable, scientific research and through the development of products and services grounded in dependable research. We create and disseminate research-based knowledge and develop and offer a variety of research-based professional resources and services.

CUNNINGHAM LIBRARY @ ACER

Cunningham Library is a unique, comprehensive collection of Australian educational research material dating from the early 1900s to the present day. The vast resources of Cunningham Library offer the researcher a complete and up to date collection of educational research documents in Australia.

Users can access a wide range of information about services and databases from Cunningham Library's website at www.acer.edu.au/library. The Library is embedded in the learning and research process by having a close alignment of corporate and library goals with the development and maintenance for research and knowledge based products and services.

Databases such as the *Library Catalogue*, the *Australian Thesaurus of Educational Descriptors (ATED)* and the *Database of International Education (DRIE)* are available for searching free of charge from the Library website. Others, such as the *Australian Education Index* are available through subscription or included in the *Library Membership* subscription.

This paper will share information about the various innovative services that enhance resource discovery by providing access to information about Australian education both nationally and internationally.

Some products will be showcased which illustrate online publishing initiatives: for example, the *Australasian Education Directory (AED)*; Online content of international interest: for example, *EdResearch Online*, the Australian research repository of resources in Australian education, and others.

Enhanced resource discovery initiatives will be demonstrated and described within the current strategic environment of new methods of access to research information with a close alignment of corporate and library goals.