



Welcome to Cunningham Library Update

Reforms in student assessment are topical at all levels of education, and in this edition of Cunningham Library Update Jenny Trevitt provides pointers to key assessment resources, and advice on how to use Cunningham Library's search tools to find further research in this area. Siân Besselaar also highlights the library's fascinating collection of school histories.

In this issue

- 2 Finding information on assessment
- 4 School histories



Photographer: Alex Harkness ©ACER

Finding the right word

The **Australian Thesaurus of Educational Descriptors (ATED)** contains the official set of subject terms (plus see and see also references) that are used across Cunningham Library's information services.

Terms from this controlled vocabulary can be added to the Subject field in the catalogue and databases, via advanced search options, to conduct a more specific subject search.
www.acer.edu.au/ated

Which thesaurus terms fit your assessment topic?

- Student assessment
- Assessment portfolios
- Competency based assessment
- Curriculum based assessment
- Online assessment
- Formative evaluation
- Performance based assessment
- Peer evaluation
- Self evaluation

What's hot? Assessment

Assessment is a major component of the ongoing work of the Australian Council for Educational Research. It is also an important focus for ACER's higher education courses and strategic initiatives such as the Centre for Assessment Reform and Innovation.

<http://www.acer.edu.au/ari>

For the Cunningham Library this priority on assessment reform means new publications for our collection, plus requests to find literature on new thinking, new metrics and new technology in assessment.

Finding information on assessment



Cunningham Library catalogue can be used to find books, reports and conference papers relating to education.

Recent resources on student assessment

Preparing for a renaissance in assessment

<http://acer.ac/id362077>

Hill and Barber (2014) review the key purpose of assessment and discuss why assessment is so often controversial, difficult and a barrier to change.

Towards a growth mindset in assessment

<http://acer.ac/id361067>

Geoff Masters (2013) describes three general approaches to evaluating and providing feedback on the outcomes of learning.

Redesigning the secondary-tertiary interface: Queensland Review of Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance

<http://acer.ac/id361785>

Gabrielle Matters and Geoff Masters (2014) report on their review of the Queensland systems of senior secondary assessment and reporting and of tertiary entrance for students completing Year 12.

Browse more catalogue resources on student assessment

<http://acer.ac/catassessment>



EdResearch Online is the library's searchable database of over 50,500 articles from more than 500 Australian education journals. It is a public database and some documents are available for free download.

Latest articles on assessment

An analysis of the effectiveness of feedback to students on assessed work

<http://acer.ac/id203706>

Taylor and Burke da Silva (2014) present views from Flinders University students on the effectiveness of current assessment practices, including their level of satisfaction with the feedback provided to them.

Assessment in a testing time

<http://acer.ac/id203601>

Bates (2014) considers the importance of effective assessment throughout the teaching and learning cycle with relation to the New South Wales Board of Studies English K-10 Syllabus for the Australian Curriculum.

Understanding the need for fine-grained assessment

<http://acer.ac/id203448>

Cunningham and Coy (2014) outline the use of fine-grained assessment measures to comply with norm-referenced reporting requirements in K-10 schools in Western Australia.

Browse more EdResearch Online articles on student assessment

<http://acer.ac/edresearchassessment>



Bates, K. (2014). Assessment in a testing time. *Practically Primary*, 19(2), 10-12.

Cunningham, C., & Coy, N. (2014). Understanding the need for fine-grained assessment. *Australian Educational Leader*, 36(3), 6-9.

Hill P., & Barber, M. (2014). *Preparing for a renaissance in assessment*. London: Pearson.

Masters, G. (2013). *Towards a growth mindset in assessment*. Retrieved from Australian Council for Educational Research website: http://research.acer.edu.au/ar_misc/17

Matters, G., & Masters, G. (2014). *Redesigning the secondary-tertiary interface: Queensland Review of Senior Assessment and Tertiary Entrance* (2nd ed.). Brisbane: Australian Council for Educational Research.

Taylor, C., & Burke da Silva, K. (2014). An analysis of the effectiveness of feedback to students on assessed work. *Higher Education Research & Development*, 33(4), 794-806.

Tracking research?

Keep up to date with selected new references in our research tools using alerting services such as email alerts, RSS feeds or Twitter.

Cunningham Library Catalogue

<http://opac.acer.edu.au>

Set up RSS feeds based on a topic of interest through the catalogue tab and side menu of the results screen

ACEReSearch

<http://research.acer.edu.au/announcements.html>

Set up email alerts customised to your research interests

EdResearch Online

<http://opac.acer.edu.au/edresearch>

The RSS feed menu option enables a simple way to create feeds for specific search topics



Bookmark this! Hot topic: Student assessment.

<http://acer.ac/hotassessment>

STUDENT ASSESSMENT

View relevant Journal articles from	
View relevant Books/Reports from	
View relevant Research from	

Find is the new search

Cunningham Library is trialling the EBSCO Discovery Service to provide a single point of access to the library's databases.



Search journal articles, books, book chapters, conference papers, theses and web documents from Australian Education Index and the ACER library catalogue. When library members are logged in via ATHENS they can click straight through to available full text resources.

Out and about

Cunningham Library staff attended and presented at several conferences in May. Please get in touch if we can contribute to your event.



6-9 May 2015 Write | Edit | Index Australian Conference for Editors, Indexers, and Publishing Professionals, **Canberra**

<http://writeeditindex.net.au/program>

11-13 May 2015 The Higher Education Technology Agenda (THETA) Conference, **Gold Coast**

<http://theta.edu.au>

18-19 May 2015 Australian Christian Schools Library Conference, **Baulkham Hills, NSW**

<http://acslibnet.asn.au>

21-23 May 2015 Excellence in Professional Practice Conference, **Brighton Beach, Sydney**

<http://www.acer.edu.au/eppc>

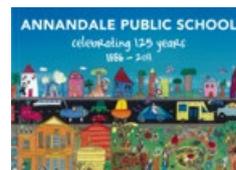
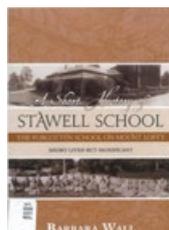
School histories

Siân Besselaar, Acquisitions Cunningham Library

Since starting work on acquisitions for Cunningham Library I have enjoyed the occasional school history that has come across my desk, and was surprised to find the library holds an extensive collection of 500 Australian school histories. Copies of the school histories are donated to the Cunningham Library as the primary collecting organisation for Australian education publications and added to the catalogue so they can be discovered readily.

<http://acer.ac/schoolhistories>

The histories show how schools have developed over the years. Some include anecdotes of past principals, teachers and students; while others paint a picture of the school's role in the community. There are maps and plans of buildings (**Auburn Public School**, NSW) and some even document the school song lyrics (**Yagoona Public School**, NSW). Others leave a bookmark of a school that once was, like the **Stawell School for Girls** (SA) which closed many years ago.



Reproduced with permission of Annandale Public School

Reproduced with permission of Barbara Wall

Blackboards to whiteboards: Yagoona Public School 1952-2012. (2013). Yagoona, NSW: Yagoona Public School.

Cameron, J., Howard, S., & Ridley, S. (2012). *Annandale public school: Celebrating 125 years 1886-2011*. Thornbury, VIC: Bounce Books.

Gilchrist, L. (2011). *Auburn Public School: Celebrates 125 years, 1886-2011*. Auburn, NSW: Auburn Public School.

Wall, B. (2012). *A short history of Stawell School: the forgotten school on Mount Lofty*. Norwood, SA: Peacock Publications for the Mount Lofty Districts Historical Society.

Has your school published a history?
Search to see if it is held by our library.
To donate a school history, contact
library.acquisitions@acer.edu.au.

Benefits of Cunningham membership

If you are interested in ongoing use of the Cunningham Library services, why not join the library? Cunningham Library members receive the following:

- Daily education news service delivered direct to your inbox
- Friendly assistance with seeking information
- Remote access to selected online journals and databases
- Loan of hard copy items from the Cunningham Library collection
- Copies of electronic or print documents sourced from the Cunningham Library collection*
- 10% discount off all ACER Press titles
- 10% discount off all ACER Institute Professional Learning workshops

Both institutional and individual memberships are available. Enquire today for a free trial

www.acer.edu.au/form/library-free-trial

CUNNINGHAMLibrary

FREE 30-DAY TRIAL FOR YOUR SCHOOL

Contact details

Monday–Friday 9.00am–5.00pm

Library visitors by appointment

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