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THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITYINSTRUCTIONAL RESOURCES UNITANNUAL REPORT 1977

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The Unit continues to have as its main objective, the provision of facilities and resources to increase the effectiveness of teaching and learning within the University.

Details of the services available from the Unit were published in the Handbook issued to all departments and section heads in August 1977. This internal publication coming at a time when many areas of the University have had to make reductions in the range of services available within departments, resulted in an increasingly high level of activity for the centralised facilities of I.R.U.

During 1977 the Language Laboratories previously in separate locations (European Languages - John Dedman building and Asian Languages - "I" Block) have been relocated with Media Services within the Chifley basement area. This move has enabled considerable savings to be made in the cost of replacement equipment and the new language centre's closeness to the audio visual area of the Chifley Library gives easy access to private study facilities.

Standardisation of A.V. equipment has ensured the compatibility of programme material throughout most of the University, giving maximum utilisation of equipment as well as considerable advantages in the availability of spare parts and servicing carried out by Media Services.

The considerable changes in photographic technology, particularly with colour, have been incorporated in the reorganised Photographic Services section and the proposed move of these facilities to the Chifley basement adjacent to all other I.R.U. areas will complete much needed processing services for the University to support the existing photographic work presently undertaken.

The increasing consultation with I.R.U. non-technical staff by academics, concerning preparation of materials, course components and general use of media in teaching will be greatly assisted by the proposed move bringing all sections of I.R.U. together.

Production staff will be adjacent to an access area where academics may do their own practical media preparation whilst being able to call on the skills of I.R.U. personnel as required. Training sessions covering the use of equipment, layout and design, legibility and production skills will assist those members of the University unfamiliar with the potential and effectiveness of media for their work.

During its two years of operation I.R.U. has produced a considerable amount of programme material for University use, which is now being sought by outside users, both institutional and private. This external use of material initially undertaken for the University is a natural extension of I.R.U.'s activities and is expected to expand steadily.

Publications - NIL