



La Trobe University Library

The Reference Collection

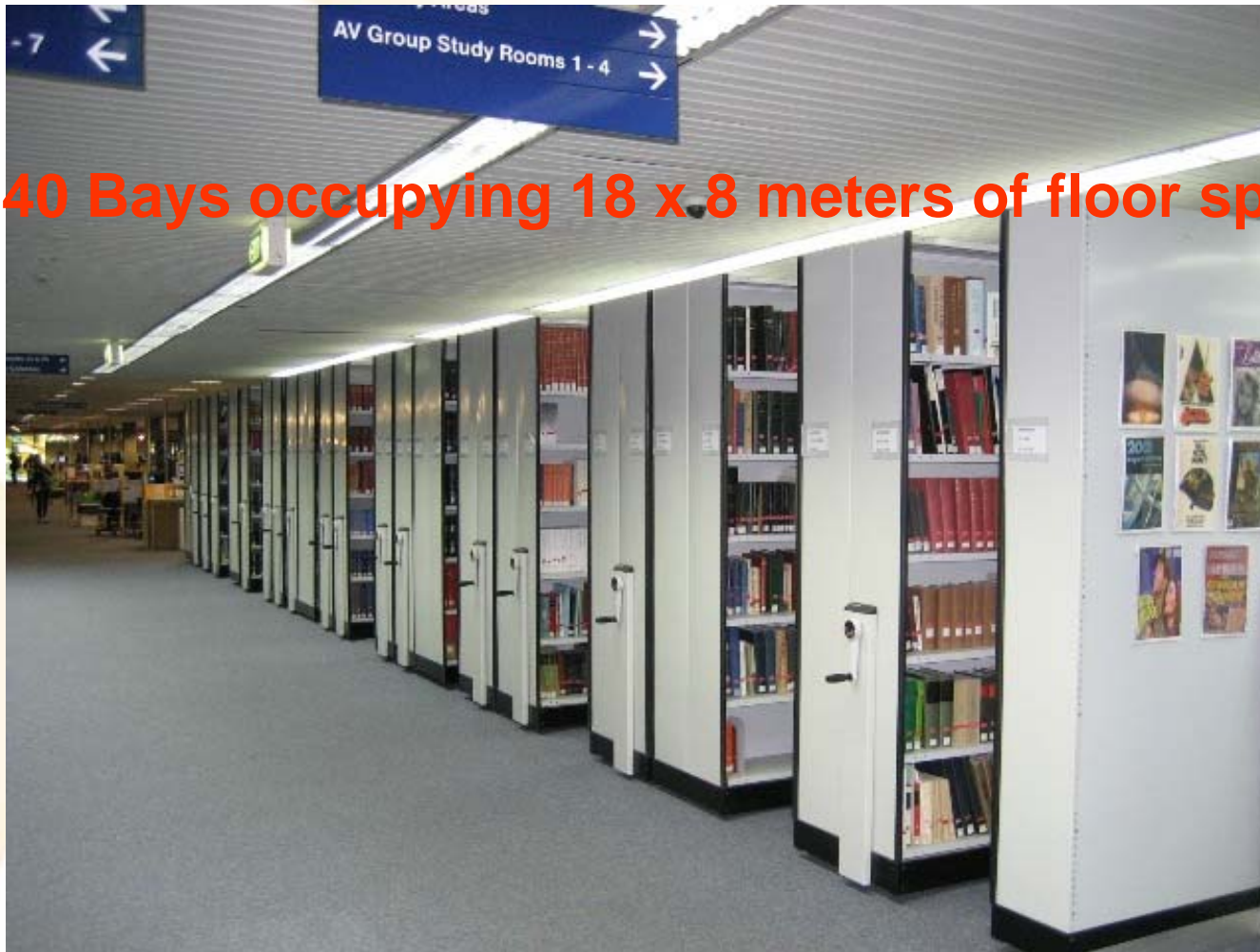
The biggest loser or bust!

CRIG Forum August 08

Nicole Sackers

From this

340 Bays occupying 18 x 8 meters of floor space



La Trobe University Library



Time for a bit of history!

The collection has grown significantly over the years with no significant weeding or review of the collection

- Previous move of Reference materials to storage (2006)
- Printed indexes, bibliographies, abstracts moved to storage
- 140 shelves were emptied and space was made for student seating & computers

Knock knock, what's in there!

Atlases
registries
almanacs
directories
handbooks
style guides
subject bibliographies
language and subject dictionaries
general and subject encyclopaedias
volumous indexes and bibliographies

What do we want to do?

Transform the reference collection into a selective, visible and dynamic collection that is highly used and relevant to the library's primary clientele.

The road map to reference utopia



Combination of strategies

- Identification of key types for inclusion
 - Subject dictionaries
 - Subject encyclopaedias
 - Language dictionaries
 - Other works relevant to discipline
 - Not multiples – latest or best only



Identification of key types for exclusion

- Abstracts / Indexes (Move to Serials)
- Subject bibliographies (to General Coll)
- Lists (e.g. Who's who) (to Serials) - may keep latest in Reference
- Imprints before 1900 (to Special Coll)

Just a bit more

- Expertise and knowledge of subject librarians
- Analysis of reshelving data
- Identify and transfer relevant titles to an electronic reference shelf

To something like ??

