

Providing modern, flexible, cloud-based Library Management for leading School of Theology

UNION SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY USE SOUTRON FOR THEIR LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SOLUTION

Bridgend, South Wales is the home of Union School of Theology and base for residential study, with a worldwide network of learning communities offering access to gospel-hearted, academically rigorous theological education.

The college was formed in 1936 as the Barry School of Evangelism. Today, Union School of Theology offers degrees from BA to PhD levels. Their graduates serve around the world, whether alongside their professional work or in full time ministry, as pastors, missionaries, gospel workers, evangelists, church planters, women's workers, scholars and youth and children's workers.

CHALLENGE

Their previous library management software had not moved forward over the years. It was clunky, offered no Unicode support for different characters, provided no flexibility for their needs and was slow to perform.

It also offered no journal management as part of the software, as this would have cost several thousand pounds extra as an add on module.

It was clear that a new solution was needed.

Donald Mitchell, Librarian, says "I knew of Soutron from various library events and, after an initial conversation, I really liked their open, conversational, no hard sell approach".



Donald also looked at an Open Source LMS supplier, but the software was not as attractive as Soutron and would have demanded far more on campus input than Union could provide.

SOLUTION

After selecting Soutron to replace their older system, Soutron LMS provides Donald with a modern library solution that fits the needs of Union School Library in many ways.

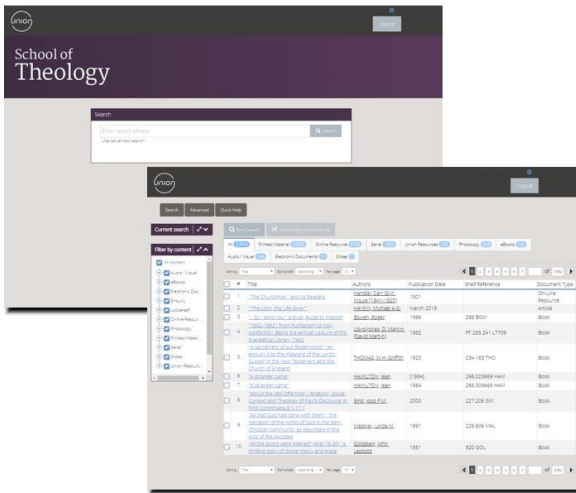
Donald says, "Thanks to the cloud-based software all IT pressures are removed and I have immediate access to brilliant and very helpful support when I need it. Questions are answered within the hour or in many cases instantly, compared to several days of waiting from our previous LMS supplier."

RESULTS



Donald says, "Soutron makes my daily tasks more enjoyable and what is really nice, the students' response to this new LMS has been very positive."

Donald also talks about the new Search Portal that Soutron provide, “When carrying out a search, the speed of the results has been hugely impressive.”



With such a big change, it’s the small features that have really impressed Donald. Within the loans features, to be able to tweak issue dates has been useful when faced with a student at the desk. Also, how easy it is to download biblio meta-data from various third-party sources to populate new records is now a very simple task.

“I can create a meta-data rich environment enhancing records with ease. I absolutely love the duplicate record feature, instantly creating a digital version of a record or vice versa. A fantastic feature for a single-handed librarian like myself.”

Commenting further on the Soutron support, Donald adds, “The helpdesk is so patient and willing with my queries, no matter how large or small, stellar support from the Soutron support team!”

With such a flexible application in place, Donald is already looking at adding archive materials to the catalogue and exploring how visual aids could be used to help students navigate the library shelves from the Search Portal pages Soutron provide.



“I can create a meta-data rich environment enhancing records with ease. I absolutely love the duplicate record feature”

Donald Mitchell
Librarian



To learn more about Union School of Theology, visit their website:

www.ust.ac.uk

To find out how you can migrate to a fast, cloud-based management system to support your students globally, start a conversation with Soutron today:

www.soutron.com