



**ALIA Access 2010 Conference**  
**Brisbane Convention & Exhibition Centre**  
**Wednesday 1 – Friday 3 September 2010**



**ROLLING OUT THE LEARNING COMMONS: ISSUES AND SOLUTIONS**  
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The CIT Learning Centre provides all the Library and Information services for CIT students as well as hosting and supporting Flexible Learning and Drop-in Learning Support across all 5 campuses. In 2008 the Learning Centre was faced with a potential reduction of one quarter of its space on one campus in order to accommodate a new Student Services Hub just when demand for its library and learning services were increasing.

By adopting a Learning Commons approach to the redevelopment of the space, it has become a popular and vibrant student focal point that is used at all hours that the campus is open, even when library staff are not in attendance. The challenges and issues include the significant increase in student traffic, the need for different work spaces – social and collaborative, technologically enhanced, through to quiet areas, the staffing mix, collaboration between staff from two different work areas, the expansion of flexible learning, supporting student use of computers and systems (more than twice as many computers as before), management of computer bookings, and keeping all stakeholders happy.

In this short presentation we will share some of our strategies and solutions, including the expanding role of the Virtual Commons, and thoughts on what the future holds for these physical and virtual library spaces?