ENCORE

As experienced by different user groups

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1. Introduction

2. Experience of Encore by Branch Librarians

3. Experience of Encore by Information Search Librarians
Background

• The developing technologies have brought about tremendous change in the Library and Information world

• Libraries are now opting to go “e” in resources. Libraries catalogued resources are increased in millions

• The number of electronic databases resources are increasing in volumes

• The search engines such as Google, Yahoo etc. are increasing their contents in billions

• The more e-resources - the more challenges they bring in the information retrieval process
The process of information retrieval becomes tedious and sometimes confusing for our clientele who ends up searching from only few familiar resources or search engines, leaving most of the resources unused.
On the other hand our users (both students and Academics) prefer to search from one platform – unlike learning to search from various multiple search platforms

**hence**

Users prefer to Google their searches because Google gives them one search platform and results with a click of the mouse
Therefore, platforms such as Encore is the answer to Librarians ......
What is Encore

• It is a quick search

• It is a new way of finding library catalogued material in a “Google-like” search

• Through a single search box, Encore connects users to all the resources the library has catalogued

• It is an integrated discovery application that responds to searches with current scholarly and popular articles, eBooks, etc.
How to access Encore

• Log on to myUnisa
• Click on the Library tab
• Click on Find the Library Catalog
Welcome to the Library Catalogue!

- Library Training
- Research Pro - a selection of multi-disciplinary databases
- AirPAC mobile interface
- New Library Material
- Guidelines for workstation settings
- Unisa Library Encore Quick Search Guide
Types of searches

Catalogue Articles

To view only articles

These articles are all coming from ResearchPro
Encore allows you to search by words or to search by means of a phrase, e.g.
Sample search

*emotional intelligence* searched as words and then as a phrase

Please note that Encore has retrieved *emotional intelligence* as both a phrase and as separate words in the references below.
The search results display screen consists of 3 sections:

Left screen display
- **to refine** your results, click on any of the criteria on the left of the screen, e.g. *Format, Collection, Publish Date*
- this will result in fewer more specific results

Middle screen display
- results are displayed in the middle of the screen
- results are sorted and displayed by relevance

An **Images** search is displayed at the top right of the screen
Information Search Librarian’s experience of Encore
Search Librarians get requests for literature searches, mainly from Honours, Masters and Doctoral students. The search requests are very specific.

For each postgraduate literature search we do an in depth search in the following types of databases:

- thesis and dissertations
- South African and international journal articles
- the Unisa catalogue
- some specific web sites / Google Scholar
- e-books
- newspaper articles
Options?

Search Encore

Search Library Catalogue and other databases
To do an in depth searches we prefer to use the Library Catalogue for the following reasons:

1. We receive very **specific** searches

**Example**: Currency devaluation and coffee farmer’s sustainability in developing countries or Ethiopia limited to last 10 years

For this search we need to retrieve very specific results
- South African and International theses and dissertations
- South African and international articles
- web information and books on the topic

It would not be possible on Encore
2. We need to provide a **separate list** for each type of information resource for students to understand results.

On Encore we will retrieve all types of media interfiled.
3. Not possible to do complex searches on Encore, using the OR operator or subject term.

Encore uses a simple keyword search.

It does a broad, quick search across all collections, NOT an in depth search.
4. Only articles from **Research Pro** – a selection of multidisciplinary databases - will display and the articles cannot be marked.
5. Can’t see **from which database** the articles were retrieved
6. For “currency devaluation” more than 2000 articles were retrieved—how relevant would they be?
7. Searches on Encore are too **time consuming**. Does not allow us to limit the search at this stage. Must first go to advanced search.
............and login

Enter your login details below:

Student no / Username:

myUnisa / Network Password:

LOGIN  clear

If you are logging in on a public terminal please remember to log out when you close your browser.

Students

To use myUnisa and access the Unisa Library’s services you need to create an account. To do this, you should:

- first claim your myLife e-mail account [You can watch a short video on how to do this]
- then join myUnisa and create your myUnisa password [You can watch a short video on how to do this]

If you forget your myUnisa password you can use the Forgotten your myUnisa password here.
8. At last you are at Research Pro – the selected 10 databases from where you can do a search ... only in the selected ones!
In Summary

- Our literature searches are too specific for Encore.
- We need to provide the search results in separate lists for our students. Encore interfiles them at the beginning of a search.
- It is not possible to do complex searches on Encore.
- Only articles from Research Pro are retrieved.
- Can’t mark/select articles to be exported.
- Can’t see immediately from which database an article is retrieved.
- Too many irrelevant items are retrieved.
- Too time-consuming to find the articles retrieved from Encore.
What can we do on Encore?

1. We can start our search on currency devaluation and then, from the ‘Refine by tag’, use developing countries and then continue the search on the Library Catalogue
2. We can have a look at the “top results for articles” and see from which database it was retrieved. The rest of the search could then be done within this specific database.
3. We can login to see from which database the most articles were retrieved.
Conclusion

• We can use Encore for a exploratory search

• Could possibly use Encore for an undergraduate search

• When an in depth search for postgraduate clients must be done, the Library catalogue and specially selected databases are the way to go