**Moving to e-books #2:**

**An academic staff perspective**

SM: Sarah Midford, Research Officer, Ancient Mediterannean Studies

AK: Amanda Kenny, Associate Professor, Rural and Regional Nursing, Bendigo

GC: Gary Clark, Associate Lecturer, Agricultural Studies

**SM:** We use e-books almost exclusively in our course because our course is taught entirely online.

**AK:** I think e-books are fantastic for researchers and particularly for students. Coming from one of the rural campuses, I am based at Bendigo, it just makes it immediate, the fact is that rather than needing to go and borrow a book.

**SM:** I think access is the most important thing. The fact that you can be anywhere in the world and you access the Library’s collection is such an advantage.

**AK:** Personally I think I find some of the books that are often hard to get, they’ll be on Reserve. You don’t need to wait for the Reserve, you can just grab it. So it’s the immediacy that’s the best bit for me.

We have this idea that people can fit in University around 9 to 5 and I think lots of people have part time jobs so being able to do it exactly when they need it…

**GC:** I think the big plus with ebooks, if it’s an ebook of a good reference, I know that that should be reliable material. The problem is just dipping into the net, for the inexperienced first year student, they can pull up the wrong material so that’s where e-books are going to be more reliable than just an internet site.

**SM:** I think it’s an inevitability that we go down this track and I think the convenience of them will soon outweigh any superstition or nostalgia that people have for books. I always think there’ll be a place for print books, absolutely, but for learning purposes, when you’re going through a degree you don’t need to collect a whole bunch of books on topics. Being able to have an e-pub on an e-device, it makes sense.