Happy New Year to all FOCUS readers and Library supporters!

Celebrations, Celebrations, Celebrations
As we usher in the New Year, I take the opportunity to highlight the activities undertaken by the Libraries in celebration of the University and the Libraries Centenary, as well as other significant events during the final months of 2012.

Dedication Ceremony for Lui Che Woo Law Library
On October 30 the official naming of the new Law Library was enacted in the Faculty of Law Moot Court. In front of several hundred guests including family, friends and colleagues of Dr Lui, senior University administrators as well as many faculty, students and Library staff, the new Law Library was officially named the Lui Che Woo Law Library in recognition of Dr Lui's significant contribution towards its construction.

The Libraries' Centenary Anniversary Conference
With the theme “Academic Libraries Today: Our Future is Now” the November 8 conference brought together library leaders and senior information professionals from around the world to celebrate, to postulate and to share best practices from some of the world’s greatest academic and research libraries. Vice Chancellor and President, Professor Tsui Lap-Chee opened the conference by welcoming guests and outlining the history and successes of the University and its Libraries while also stressing the uncertainty of the future in an information rich world.

At the conference we also showcased the Ten Celebratory Acquisitions which were received by the Deans or their nominees. Details of these can be found at http://lib.hku.hk/hkul100/ic/10acq.html.

Fung Ping Shan 80th Anniversary Celebration and Book Launch
On November 8 we also celebrated the 80th anniversary of the Fung Ping Shan Library, the University’s East Asian Library and HKU’s first dedicated and purpose built library. Fung Ping Shan was a man of great integrity who treasured education and his Chinese heritage. Together these passions drove him to fund the establishment of the Fung Ping Shan Library in 1932. To mark the occasion we launched the latest of the Libraries’ publications, the book “Fung Ping Shan: the Man, his Life and his Library” (http://lib.hku.hk/hkul100/ic/FPSbook.html) written by Cornelia (Nelly) Lichauco Fung and HKU Deputy University Librarian, Dr YC Wan.

The Libraries’ Centenary and Fung Ping Shan 80th Anniversaries Dinner
The celebrations on November 8 culminated in a gala dinner attended by over 220 guests in Loke Yew Hall, including many members of the Fung family as well as current and past library staff. At the gala dinner Dr Tam Wah Ching and Mrs Shirley Tam donated $2 million to the HKU Libraries Centenary Endowment Fund.
Celebrating the Centenary: Gems of the University of Hong Kong Libraries

This exhibition, held at, and in conjunction with, the University Museum and Art Gallery, ran from 28th November to 27th January and was the Libraries final Centennial celebratory event. Within the exhibition were rare Chinese materials ranging from a mid-13th century Sung Dynasty imprint to 19th century examination essays. From Hong Kong there were early government publications, textbooks and newspapers and on display were the Library’s oldest western book “Dell’istoria della China” (1588) and Sir George Staunton’s 5-volume, second edition account of Lord Macartney’s 1793 embassy from George III to the Emperor of China. The exhibition was very well received and was a truly fitting end to two years of celebrations.

Two Rare Books Donated as Thanks for Celebration Activities

Subsequent to the Centenary celebrations for the Library and the 80th Anniversary of the Fung Ping Shan Library, Mr Kenneth and Mrs Nelly Fung presented the Library with two rare books. These are:

These two volumes mark a significant addition to our Special Collections.

What Lies Ahead for 2013?

Libraries Running at Capacity

The extra cohort of students arising from the four year curriculum joined us in September 2012. The Libraries have been bursting with students and staff since that time with only a brief respite during the holiday period. Library usage is expected to continue to be heavy throughout 2013 with students making particularly good use of the new environments in the Main Library’s Level 3 renovation, the new Law and Music Libraries as well as the relocated Education Library.

Education Library Moves to Meng Wah Complex

From January 14 to 16 the Education Library relocated from the Runme Shaw Building to the 8th floor of the Meng Wah Complex, occupying the renovated, former Council Chamber. The much improved space now provides discussion rooms and provides an overall superior environment for all Education Library users.

16th International Symposium on Electronic Theses and Dissertations (ETD 2013)

In September the Library will host this highly prestigious, international conference. With the theme “Asian Values, Western Thought, World Treasure”, it will be the first time this conference is held in Asia. Attendees are expected from all corners of the globe. This is a great opportunity for the HKU Libraries to promote our global position among academic libraries as well as the groundbreaking work that we have completed with the digitization of HKU theses. Details of the Conference are available at http://lib.hku.hk/etd2013/.

There will be much more happening in the Libraries in the coming year. Please keep watching the Library website http://lib.hku.hk/ for details as they arise. Finally may I wish the entire University Family a healthy and successful 2013.

Peter E Sidorko
University Librarian
Through Boxer Rebellion, Plague and Revolution – 45 years of an Irish missionary in Manchuria
Theme Book: Frederick--The Life of My Missionary Grandfather in Manchuria
Speaker: Mr Mark O’Neill
Moderator: Professor Ying Chan
Date: 22 October 2012 (Monday)
Time: 7:15 - 9:00 pm
Language: English
Click here to revisit the book talk by Mr Mark O’Neill

尋根問底的東西
Theme Book: 《東西的故事》安妮. 雷納德著 (The Story of Stuff / Annie Leonard)
Speaker: Ms Gloria Chang Wan-ki（張韻琪女士）
Moderator: Mr Cheung Pui Kwan, Paul（張沛坤先生）
Date: 15 November 2012 (Thursday)
Time: 7:15 - 9:00 pm
Language: Cantonese
Click here to revisit the book talk by Ms Gloria Chang Wan-ki
Forging a HKU Identity, 1905–1945
Theme Book: History of the University of Hong Kong, Volume 1, 1911-1945
Speaker: Dr Peter Cunich
Moderator: Mr Peter Sidorko
Date: 29 November 2012 (Thursday)
Time: 7.15 - 9:00 pm
Language: English

Click here to revisit the book talk by Dr Peter Cunich
Upcoming Book Talks

On Skeleton Women and the female spy in China
Theme Book: Skeleton Women written by Mingmei Yip
Speaker: Dr Mingmei Yip
Moderator: Ms Evelyn Ng
Date: 7 February 2013 (Thursday)
Time: 7:15 - 9:00 pm
Language: English

About the Talk:
Qin musician and novelist Mingmei Yip’s new and fourth novel is Skeleton Women, a Chinese phrase for femmes fatales. The novel tells the story about three women -- Camilla, a nightclub singer who has been forced to become a spy, Shadow a magician who jumps naked off a tall building, and a gender-ambiguous gossip columnist. All must scheme in order to survive the gang wars in lawless 1930s Shanghai.

In this event, Dr Yip will discuss the theme of her novels (with focus on Skeleton Women), how she incorporated Chinese culture into her work, and how she got published by a major New York Publisher.

Following the talk, Yip will read excerpts from Skeleton Women and Song of the Silk Road, and sign copies.

Pacific Crossing: California Gold, Chinese Migration, and the Making of Hong Kong
Speaker: Dr Elizabeth Sinn
Date: 7 March 2013 (Thursday)
Time: 7:15 - 9:00 pm
Language: English

About the Book:
During the nineteenth century tens of thousands of Chinese men and women crossed the Pacific to work, trade, and settle in California. Drawn initially by the gold rush, they took with them skills and goods and a view of the world which, though still Chinese, was transformed by their long journeys back and forth. They in turn transformed Hong Kong, their main point of embarkation, from a struggling infant colony into a prosperous international port and the cultural center of a far-ranging Chinese diaspora.

Making use of extensive research in archives around the world, Pacific Crossing charts the rise of Chinese Gold Mountain firms engaged in all kinds of transpacific trade, especially the lucrative export of prepared opium and other luxury goods. Challenging the traditional view that the migration was primarily a “coolie trade,” Elizabeth Sinn uncovers leadership and agency among the many Chinese who made the crossing. In presenting Hong Kong as an “in-between place” of repeated journeys and continuous movement, Sinn also offers a fresh view of the British colony and a new paradigm for migration studies.
Celebrating the Centenary: Gems of The University of Hong Kong Libraries
29 November 2012 to 27 January 2013

The University Libraries and The University Museum and Art Gallery, The University of Hong Kong jointly present an exhibition “Celebrating the Centenary: Gems of the University of Hong Kong Libraries” to commemorate the centenary of University Libraries and the eightieth anniversary of the establishment of the Fung Ping Shan Library.

On display are over one hundred rare books, manuscripts and artefacts from the University Libraries, including letters and manuscripts by renowned scholars, maps and rubbings, as well as imprints dated to the 13th and 14th centuries.

The exhibition provides an overview of the development of the HKU Libraries from the founding in 1912 to the present day, and the history of the Fung Ping Shan Library. Highlights include An Authentic Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China written by Sir George Staunton (1737-1801) in 1798, The Hongkong Almanack and Directory for 1846: with an Appendix compiled by William Tarrant (1820-1872) in 1846, Essays on Self-discipline dated 1234, and Collection of Random Sketches, a handwritten copy dated to the Ming dynasty (1369-1644).
Exhibitions

From the ground to top floor: Music Library History Exhibition

This exhibition aims to share with you the musical journey from ground floor to top floor. In this journey, you will witness the transformation of the Library’s physical layouts and gain an overview of the collections and salient events illustrating the challenges and assiduous efforts that the generations of Music Librarians and support staff have experienced and asserting the Library’s commitment in meeting the needs of its users.

This exhibition is also part of the University Libraries’ Centennial Celebration events.

Date: December 13, 2012 – January 26, 2013
Venue: Music Library (11/F, Run Run Shaw Tower, Centennial Campus, University of Hong Kong, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong)
Enquiry: (852) 3917 2218
Email: muslib@lib.hku.hk
We are pleased to announce that the Libraries is going to hold a Mini Used Book Sale on Monday, 21 January 2013.

Books for sale are duplicates donated by our supporters or withdrawn copies from the library collection. Books from various subjects, both in Chinese and English, are priced at HK$20 and up. Also available is a selection of fiction for leisure reading.

This has been an extremely popular event. Staff, students and HKU community can come to get good value on books. Putting the duplicates and withdrawn copies on sale promotes reading by allowing the public to get the books they need at a good price. Proceeds from the sale will contribute towards the purchase of new books, library materials, programmes or services.

Owing to manpower constraints, we cannot handle book search requests and the used books are displayed in broad categories. Used books are available on a first come, first served basis. There will be no reservation of used books.

To support going green, plastic bags will not be provided.

Details:
Date: Monday, 21 January 2013 (10:00 am – 7:00 pm)
Venue: Multi-purpose Zone, Level 3, Main Library, HKU
Enquiries: friends@lib.hku.hk / 2859 8903

http://lib.hku.hk/friends/booksale/
Luke Him Sau Architectural Collection Database

This newly released database consists of architectural drawings created by Hong Kong architect Mr. Luke Him Sau (陸謙受) and his various business and personal records. There are some 950 pieces of architectural drawings, dated approximately from 1948 to 1968, of building projects in Hong Kong, Shanghai, Guangzhou, Macau and Taiwan. For business and personal records, they include work diaries, professional certificates issued by authorities in China, Hong Kong and other countries, lecture notes, office records and over 1,730 poems of Luke’s experience in Hong Kong and New York.

Digital images of most architectural drawings, business and personal records are accessible through browse and search functions.
http://lhsarc.lib.hku.hk/exhibits/show/lhsarc/home
New Library Publication: *Fung Ping Shan: The Man, His Life and His Library*

A new library publication, *Fung Ping Shan: The Man, His Life and His Library*, co-authored by Mrs Nelly Fung, granddaughter-in-law of Fung Ping Shan, and Dr Y.C. Wan, Fung Ping Shan Librarian, has just been published to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Fung Ping Shan Library.

A book launch was held during the gala dinner celebrating the centenary anniversary of the University of Hong Kong Libraries and the 80th anniversary of the Fung Ping Shan Library on 8 November 2012. At the launch Mrs Fung made the following remarks:

“Libraries have since earliest times, been a repository of knowledge. The written word, expresses the thoughts, the expressions and the information amassed over thousands of years. Without them, knowledge from the past and present could neither be preserved nor passed on to the next generation. I cannot imagine a world without libraries – humankind would be reduced to ignorance.

Today, through digitalization and the use of technology, libraries have an even more powerful outreach. They are a powerful and precious resource. It is reassuring to know that the University of Hong Kong Libraries and the Fung Ping Shan Library, continues to develop towards becoming a library without borders.

Despite the lack of a sophisticated formal education himself, Fung Ping Shan grasped and appreciated the need and the value of libraries as a repository for knowledge. His generous gift to the University continues to contribute towards learning not only for people in Hong Kong, but now, with digitalization, for people everywhere.

The book tells the story of a successful businessman, generous benefactor of many charities, tireless founder of educational institutions and keen supporter of libraries. It is a deeply personal account of Fung's remarkable life – starting from his early days in Xinhui and spanning his experiences as a successful entrepreneur in Chongqing, Guangzhou and Hong Kong, his commitment to philanthropy and his passion for setting up libraries as a source of social education. And yet this book is not just one man’s legend, it is the story of early twentieth century Hong Kong, seen from one of the leading members of the Chinese community who left a legacy that has lasted for decades.

Published by the Commercial Press (HK) Ltd, the book is available at Commercial Press bookstores in Hong Kong.”
Libraries Centenary Endowment Fund

To commemorate the Libraries Centenary in 2012, we have established a Libraries Centenary Endowment Fund in order to further enhance the collections to meet the needs and challenges ahead of us.

Thanks to the vision and commitment to support the sustainable development of the Libraries, Dr Tam Wah Ching and Mrs Shirley Tam have contributed the initial amount of two million dollars for this Libraries Centenary Endowment Fund.

Generous contributions to the Fund were also received by Mrs Euphine Chung and Ms Serena Yang.

Special Gift for the Centenary

In celebration of the Libraries Centenary Anniversary, the former University Librarian (1984-1999) and current Senior Library Advisor, Dr Kan Lai Bing composed the following couplet:

鄴架琳琅，促進東西文明，瞬滿百載，
庋藏浩瀚，宏揚古今精萃，期萬千年！

簡麗冰

Translation:
Shelves in full array of literary gems, promoting civilization East and West, in a hundred years that have passed in a twinkling;

Vast and extensive collections, propagating the essence of knowledge ancient and modern, looking forward of thousands of years to come.

Kan Lai Bing

Notable donations:

We are very grateful to receive the following donations:
1. 35 boxes of materials from Mr Cheng Kar Foo Andrew
2. 23 boxes of materials from Ms Ho Sau Lan
3. 12 boxes of materials from Dr Lee Pui Tak
4. 9 boxes of materials from Prof SL Wong
5. 7 boxes of materials from Ms Emily Lau
6. 5 Boxes of materials from Dr Elizabeth Sinn
7. 26 boxes of materials from Centre of Asian Studies
Library advisory and support services available at Chi Wah Learning Commons

With effect from 15 October, 2012, the University Libraries has launched an advisory service for students in the Chi Wah Learning Commons (智華館). The University Libraries offers assistance to students in:

• using the library services and facilities;
• formulating search strategies;
• searching the information resources, such as Dragon (the library catalogue) and the article databases; and
• setting up personal consultations for in-depth information search.

The advisory service is available Monday to Friday from 1pm to 5 pm in Zone R, i.e. the designated Student Advisory Services Zone shown in green in the following floor plan.
Long After Graduation, Your HKU Thesis Keeps on Giving

One of the all time most popular HKU theses is that done by the late singer, Dr. James Wong. Year after year readers find and read his thesis, “The rise and decline of cantopop: a study of Hong Kong popular music (1947-1997)”. Like all HKU theses, his thesis can be accessed from The HKU Scholars Hub. His thesis is at, http://hub.hku.hk/handle/10722/31835.

Please notice the link on the left hand side for, "Item Statistics (The Hub)”. Clicking on this will display various charts on View Count, and Download Count, by region, country, city, and by time. If this was your thesis, you might want to set up the email alerts or RSS feeds so that usage statistics would come to you daily, weekly or monthly.

Potential employers, collaborators, and publishers can all find your thesis through any number of search engines including Google, and then click through to read in the Hub. Another access point for your thesis is the ResearcherPage of your supervisor. An example is this page on Prof JSM Peiris, one of HKU’s top researchers, and whose laboratory was the first to isolate the SARS virus in 2003, http://hub.hku.hk/rp/rp00410/achievements?open=supervisionresearch. This page shows the research students whom he has supervised, and where possible links to the fulltext of their theses. In this manner, your research and that of your advisor act to mutually attract more potential collaborators to the both of you.

Recently the Libraries have begun adding another access point to all e-theses. This is a DOI number. Dr Wong’s thesis above carries a DOI of, http://dx.doi.org/10.5353/th_b3105733. DOI numbers will greatly increase searchers precision in finding a certain thesis, and citing it. In the future, we hope that we can retrieve usage statistics from CrossRef for a particular DOI number.

Lastly, I urge you to consider using multimedia to make your thesis unique, and one that will make it stand out from the crowd. Such a thesis would give you a chance to learn and use new digital tools that will probably also be asked of you in your future professional work.

David T Palmer
Associate Librarian
Awards! Money! Fame! for Innovative Theses!

Every year the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD) awards prizes and money to a few authors of outstanding e-theses or dissertations (ETDs). These awards are, 1) The Innovative ETD Award – recognizes student efforts to transform the genre of the print dissertation through the use of innovative software to create multimedia ETDs, and 2) The Innovative Learning through ETDs Award – recognizes a student whose professional life has been enhanced by the ETD process.

http://www.ndltd.org/events_and_awards/awards/call-for-nominations-ndltd-etd-awards-2012

Awards are made every year in the International Symposium on ETDs, which will be hosted by the HKU Libraries in September 2013. Your chances of winning just doubled as the judges will want to highlight the work of a local student. All HKU e-theses are done in PDF. Please think how you might enhance your e-thesis through innovative use of multimedia and digital tools. If you think you have a shot at these prizes, please contact the undersigned.

David T Palmer
Associate Librarian
dtpalmer@hku.hk
Encyclopédie : ou Dictionnaire raisonné des sciences, des arts et des métiers / par une société des gens de lettres. Mis en ordre et publié par m. Diderot; et quant a la partie mathématique, par m. d’Alembert … [et. al.]
Geneve : J.L. Pellet, 1778-79.

The Encyclopedie is a monumental work of Western civilization representing the thought of the Enlightenment. This was the first encyclopedia to include contributions from named contributors with lavish attention on the mechanical arts.

The natural history of the human teeth : explaining their structure, use, formation, growth, and diseases ; illustrated with copper-plates / by John Hunter.
London : Printed for J. Johnson, 1771.

This classical work revolutionized the practice of dentistry, and provided a basis for later dental research. Hunter introduced the classes cuspids, bicuspids, molars and incisors; he also devised appliances for the correction of malocclusion.

Principles of political economy : considered with a view to their practical application / by T.R. Malthus.
London : John Murray, 1820.

This is the first edition of Malthus’s important classic of economic theory, proposing investment in public work and private luxury as possible means to increase demand and to palliate the economic downswing.
Staff Recognition Award

This award is given periodically in recognition of a staff member whose contribution to the Libraries has been extraordinary. Award winners receive HK$1000 and a book plate to honor the occasion.

Mr Lincoln Tang of the Law Library has been selected as the award recipient of the Staff Recognition Program 2012.

Past Staff Recognition Award Recipients:

Mr Michael Wong Kwok Hung (Administrative Services Team)
Mr Francis Poon (Scholarly Communication Team)
Mr Angus Lun (Access Services Department)
Mr Leong Chau Iu (Access Services Department)
Mr Jimmy Sung (Systems Department)
Ms Lillian Lucke (Medical Library)
Mr Chan Wai Sun (Administrative Services Team)
Ms Chan Min Sze, Ivy (Lui Che Wo Law Library)
Ms Marine Yip (Administrative Services Team)
Mr To Siu King (E-resources and Serials Cataloguing Department)
Ms Connie Lam (Western and E-Resources Cataloguing Department)
Ms Carol Lam (Acquisitions Department)
Ms Alice Wong (Collection Development Department)
Mr Lai Chun Ying (Bindery Department)
Ms Esther Woo (Administrative Services Team)
Ms Betty Lam (Lui Che Wo Law Library)
Mr Leung Kai Kwong (Access Services Department)
Ms Molly Lam (Acquisitions Department)
Ms Polly Leung (Education Library)
Mr Peter Wong Hung Chiu (Medical Library)
Ms Chan Lai Lin Maggie (Bibliographic Discovery Services Team)