Again the HKU Libraries are alive!

While the summer months see our Libraries utilized, it is the start of semester each year that sees the renewed energy and enthusiasm that is both palpable and contagious. I take this opportunity to wish all new and returning staff and students a successful year, and I hope that the Libraries will play a significant role in contributing to your achievements.

Library Resources and Services

The Libraries range and depth of information resources are unparalleled in Hong Kong. Our extensive print collections are surpassed (in numbers at least) by our vast electronic collections. With almost 3 million print volumes, over 3.5 million e-books and over 86,000 e-journals, navigating library resources can be a confronting experience to the novice. For this reason we provide numerous ways for you to get help. Each of our Libraries provide on the spot support to help you navigate our collections, and beyond, through our information counters. Apart from face to face counters, support is also available via email, telephone and WhatsApp (see http://lib.hku.hk/general/help.html for details). In 2013/4 we answered over 91,000 questions through these means. We also invest significantly in more structured classroom style approaches. In the 2013/14 academic year we reached 12,471 participants in 549 of such sessions, from orientations to intensive postgraduate workshops.

A New Entrance for the Main Library

As I mentioned in the April, 2014 issue of Focus (http://www.lib.hku.hk/general/focus/2014/Focus-201404.pdf) the planning for a new entrance for the Main Library is well underway. To be located at the west side of the New Wing on the 2nd floor, the new entrance will provide ready access to University Street, the Centennial Campus and the forthcoming MTR station. I am certain it will prove to be a lively area for the campus. While the start date has been delayed slightly, we are expecting building works to commence in the coming weeks with a completion in May, 2015. I hope you will remain patient during the inevitable disruptions that will ensue.
Forthcoming events

Despite the looming disruptions we will continue with a business as usual approach which will include an array of exhibitions and book talks.

Our exhibitions will include:

6 - 24 Oct  Wu Lu Exhibition (see article in this issue)
6 - 17 Oct  Hong Kong Photos from the Hong Kong Institute of Professional Photographers
5 - 21 Nov  Equal Opportunity Book Exhibition
10 - 21 Nov  Jorge Luis Borges: of Tigers and Labyrinths
            from the Consulate General of the Argentine Republic in Hong Kong and Macau
24 Nov - 5 Dec The Central Resources Centre from the Education Bureau

Upcoming book talks include:

30 Oct     Macau - People & Places, Past & Present by Mr Jason Wordie
20 Nov     The Influence of Immigration in Argentine Theatre by Dr. Nora Parola-Leconte
4 Dec      The Heart Sutra and Beyond by Kwan-yuk Claire Sit (薛羅君鈺)

Other events are still in the planning and will be announced through our web page (http://lib.hku.hk/). I hope you will take the time to participate in these events as we endeavor to contribute to the rich intellectual environment of our campus.

Once again may I take this opportunity to wish all a successful academic year and I look forward to meeting you in the Libraries and around campus.

Peter E. Sidorko
University Librarian
Macao – People and Places, Past and Present

About the Speaker:
Jason Wordie is an established local historian and writer in Hong Kong who gives historical lectures for a variety of community groups and cultural organisations, in addition to various well-known corporate bodies as well as conducting historical walks in Hong Kong, Macao, Canton (Guangzhou) and Humen. Jason’s books include Streets: Exploring Hong Kong Island, published by Hong Kong University Press in 2002 and its companion volume Streets: Exploring Kowloon, published 2007 by Hong Kong University Press. For more than ten years, Jason has had a series of regular columns in the South China Morning Post. His current column, Then and Now, appears every week in the Sunday Morning Post’s Post Magazine.

About the Book:
Macao contains abundant corners of appeal and fascination, and enduring links to the past in spite of considerable transformation, and rapid change in recent years. A compelling, multi-layered social history, Macao – People and Places, Past and Present with stunning photographs by Anthony J Hedley and Colin Day - takes the reader on a series of journeys across physical, geographical, chronological and cultural space and time from the Barrier Gate in the north to Coloane in the south. In the process, Jason Wordie reveals the many dimensions that make Macao the uniquely special place that it is – and has always been.

To register for this book talk:

PAST BOOK LAUNCH

I am Ho Sik Ying, Age 55

Speaker: Dr Ho Sik Ying, Petula
Moderator: Dr Y. C. Wan
Date: 29 April 2014 (Tuesday)

Click here to revisit the book talk
Scholarly and Art works from the Family of Wu Lu Zhuangyuan

6 - 24 October, 2014
Special Collections,
1/F Main Library, HKU
Scholarly and Art works of the Family of Zhuangyuan Wu Lu

On 13 January 2014, the Libraries hosted a donation ceremony to honour Mr Ng Tsz Tung (吳紫棟) and his family for donating their family treasures to the Fung Ping Shan Library. The Libraries will hold an exhibit of these great treasures in the Special Collections, 1/F Main Library, The University of Hong Kong from the 6th October – 24th October 2014.

Mr Ng had devoted a great deal of time and effort in the past 2 decades collecting the dispersed art works of his great grandfather, the late Mr Wu Lu (吳魯), who ranked first in a palace examination held during the Guangxu (光緒) era (1871-1908) and was honoured with the widely-admired title Zhuangyuan (狀元). After a number of suggestions for Mr Ng to auction his collection, Mr Ng has decided to find a permanent home at a prestigious institution. We are honoured Mr Ng has chosen The Fung Ping Shan Library to home this rare collection knowing very well that we will take care, preserve and make available for scholarly purposes this extensive collection of Mr Wu Lu.

The donation includes Mr Wu Lu’s script for the imperial examination, manuscripts of the poems he wrote grieving at the Eight Power Expedition (八國聯軍) to China in 1900, as well as a number of calligraphy and books written by four generations of the Wu family. These are not just treasures of the Wu family but also the treasures of the Chinese culture.

Mr Ng has been actively promoting the study of Wu Lu by attending academic conferences, writing articles, and engaging in dialogue with scholars. Donating the family’s invaluable collection to the Fung Ping Shan Library is yet another step to promote the study of Wu Lu and ensure these treasures will be properly preserved.
Annual Planning Day
19 June 2014

Starting from 2001, the Libraries has developed its fine tradition of an Annual Planning Day (formerly known as the Annual Retreat). This year’s event was held on 19 June 2014 at the Multi-purpose Zone of Level 3 with almost 60 participants including the Chair of the Senate Library Committee DVC Professor Roland Chin, representatives from faculties and many library staff.

The rollout activity of the day was a series of reports from library teams responsible for planning and implementation of library projects. Following the reports were two very intriguing talks delivered by Professor John Bacon-Shone from Faculty of Social Sciences and Dr. Susan Bridges from Faculty of Education. The talks not only introduced to the audience the speakers’ latest research, teaching and learning activities but also served as stimuli for subsequent brainstorming sessions for good ideas of library supporting services.

In the afternoon, library staff were divided into groups to continue searching for new ideas to enhance our collections, services and infrastructure. We hope all participants find the Annual Planning Day an informative event as well as a good opportunity to learn and exchange. To tap on the benefits of an earlier start of our planning cycle, we have already marked a date in April 2015 for the next Annual Planning Day!
Staff Retirement Party
20 June 2014

The library has organized a retirement reception for 4 long serving library colleagues on 20 June 2014 in Theatre 1, Meng Wah Complex. They were Mr. Leung Hung Kwong (Technical Services), Ms. Lo Wai Chun (Preservation and Conservation), Ms. Wan Ah Fung (Administrative Services) and Mr. Yip Wai Sum (Medical Library). All were applauded for their success as valuable staff members and for outstanding dedication to the library by the University Librarian. The reception also offered an opportunity for the retirees and their colleagues to reminisce and share their memorable moments in the library. We all wish them the very best retirement and all the best in their future endeavors.
A Notable donation in the Music Library

The Music Library is honoured to receive a music parchment donated by Professor Daniel Chua, Professor of Music. It is a folio of Graduale Romanum, a collection of chants for Proper Parts of Mass (Proprium missae) of the Roman Liturgy in the late 16th & early 17th century (approximately). The piece named the First Sunday of Advent is performed on the fourth Sunday before Christmas in the Catholic Church. It consists of five short pieces and the donated music parchment features Graduale (2nd), Alleluia (3rd) and the first half of Offertorium (4th). The folio is double-sided, twice size of A3 paper, and is made of vellum. Special cleaning has been done by Preservation and Conversation Division. The original copy will be housed in the Rare Books Room for long-term preservation. A replica of music parchment will be reproduced and displayed in the Music Library. The donation of music parchment can be viewed from the website of Music Library. (Website address: http://lib.hku.hk/muslib/notable_donation.html)
Library Training: Orientations, Workshops and Seminars

Our team of colleagues is beaming with vitality to welcome new students through a packed schedule of orientations, workshops and tours. With registration to the training courses often quickly filled out, more sessions have to be arranged in order to satisfy the incoming demands. Till end of September, in the Main Library alone, ten Freshmen Orientations and 21 Postgraduate Library Workshops have been offered. Besides introducing students to the basic search skills, our colleagues also led the new faces around the library to explore the cool environment, collections and useful services. For this year’s Freshmen Orientation, we gave out coffee coupons and HKUL tumblers and students were feeling engaged and delighted to have these small gifts.

To strengthen students’ information skills, other kinds of training are on its way. While Faculty Librarians are offering tailor-made sessions to students from different programmes, there are open workshops on various topics of interest. The latest schedule is available at http://lib.hku.hk/general/instruction/. But, perhaps let us share a sneak preview of our training programme lined up for you:

**Open workshops:**
- Endnote Workshop I: Endnote Basic
- Endnote Workshop II: Manage your Library
- Dragon (HKUL Catalogue)
- Finding Journal Articles
- Finding Dissertations
- Cited Reference Search
- Journal Impact Factor
- E-books
- E-news

**Database training:**
- ScienceDirect
- Bankscope
- Oriana
- SciFinder Scholar
- EIU.com
- ISI Emerging Markets

**Seminars for young researchers:**
- Author’s Talk
- Open Access
Turnitin@HKU

Academic integrity has always been an important issue in the scholarly world. To facilitate the detection of potential plagiarism, the University has been subscribing to the Originality Check module under Turnitin since 2004. So, this year marks the tenth anniversary of our subscription.

Over the years, our usage of Turnitin continues to rise. In 2013-2014, an originality report is generated every 5.5 minutes under our subscription. Broader adoption has been witnessed in 2011 when the Board of Examination for Graduation Studies (BoEGS) stipulated that all Research Postgraduates are required to go through a compulsory Turnitin check prior to the formal theses submission. Through the collaborative effort with Information Technology Services (ITS), Turnitin-Moodle integration materialized in 2011, strengthening the support for eLearning. Usage further increased.

As from the latest survey conducted in March 2014, instructors still find the originality reports useful and would like to use Turnitin in the future. Most respondents also indicated that Turnitin could help them detect plagiarism in student assignments with more confidence.

A new 3-year subscription, covering HKU and HKU SPACE, has just been signed in September 2014. The subscription includes three modules, namely Originality Check, GradeMark and PeerMark. Grademark facilitates instructors to grade and give comments to students in a more convenient way using electronic devices. PeerMark, on the other hand, enables students to evaluate each other’s work fostering mutual learning.

The Libraries will continue to take an active role in coordinating with CETL, ITS and HKU SPACE in the provision of this plagiarism detection software to the University community in ensuring academic integrity. To learn more on Turnitin@HKU, please visit this web page at: http://lib.hku.hk/turnitin/

WhatsApp-a-Librarian

You can now WhatsApp-a-Librarian at 5441-5441! Launched in July 2014, this service aims to provide quick response to simple enquiries. Service hours are from 9 am to 5 pm, Monday to Friday, with a performance pledge of 4 hours. Replacing Text-a-Librarian (SMS), which has been in operation since 2008, this handy tool will increase the presence of information services in the mobile environment facilitating readers to contact the Libraries for assistance.

So, all in all, readers can Ask-a-Librarian through:
In person: Information Counter on Level 3 (Main Library) or at respective Branches
Email: libis@hku.hk
Telephone: 2859-2203
WhatsApp: 5441-5441
Research Consultation: By appointment (for Academic Staff and Postgraduates)

Find out more at http://lib.hku.hk/general/help.html

Pathfinding - Exhibition on Learning Opportunities at HKU

“HKUL: Myriad Ways to Support Your Needs” is the Libraries’ theme of the Pathfinding event scheduled on 25 and 26 September 2014 at Haking Wong Podium. Pathfinding is an annual exhibition on learning opportunities organized by Academic Advising Office (AAO) and Centre of Development and Resources for Students (CEDARS). This year, the Libraries’ booth features a board game “Throw a dice to explore your library”. We hope students will become more aware of the learning resources through fun and laughter. So, do come and join us to explore!
Have you ever lost your personal belongings in the library, perhaps an USB flash drive or Octopus card? Well, our statistics show that some 3,000 patrons reported loss to us last year, with items ranging from Octopus cards and student IDs to pillows and eyeglasses.

While most lost items can be recovered, we urge all patrons to take good care of their personal belongings in the library, no matter how short the time you are going to leave them unattended. Patrons who unfortunately have found their personal belongings missing should report to counter staff immediately so that these cases can be attended to without delay.

On the other hand, we received more than 4,500 found properties last year, from USB flash drives and laptops to passports and credit cards. About a third of them were claimed by their rightful owners soon afterwards – and unclaimed items have been sent to the Security and Parking Unit of the Estates Office.

As a side note, a staff member of our Acquisitions Section recently found $3,000 cash in a gift book from Chi Lin Nunnery (志蓮淨苑). After consulting her supervisor, she liaised with the Nunnery and returned the found property. This is indeed an act of honesty that we would like to share with other colleagues and library patrons.

Y.C. Wan
Vivian So
It is with great sadness that we write to inform you that Miss Ng Tung King (伍東瓊), former Librarian of the Fung Ping Shan Library, passed away on June 10, 2014, at the age of 95.

Miss Ng served as a cataloguer of the Fung Ping Shan Library during the Japanese occupation. She helped manage and preserve the library collections at times of great turmoil which lasted for three years and eight months. Re-joined the Libraries in 1951, she took charge of the Fung Ping Shan Library from 1953 to 1960. She became the first Head of University of British Columbia Asian Library in 1960, a position which she held until her retirement in 1987.

During an interview with Mr C.F. Lee (李直方), Fung Ping Shan Librarian from 1989 to 1997, in December 2002, Miss Ng recounted her wartime experience. An excerpt of the interview has been reproduced below as our last tribute to Miss Ng.

In Memory of
Miss Ng Tung King, former Librarian
of the Fung Ping Shan Library

李直方撰寫
Hong Kong was under Japanese occupation on December 8, 1941. My mother did not let me leave Hong Kong because my older brother was sick and his wife just gave born to a baby. I visited Professor Ma Kam at his home and he was about to flee. Mr Chan Kwan Po, the then Librarian of the Fung Ping Shan Library, was held up by the Japanese and asked to continue taking care of the library. He asked me, together with a couple of his relatives and friends who were stranded on Hong Kong, for help. At such troubled times my lifelong connection with the library began.

I was assigned by Mr Chan to catalogue books in the collections of the Fung Ping Shan Library and Tang Chi Ngong School of Chinese during the three years or so. Without any prior knowledge of cataloguing, I had learned how to catalogue books by myself after going through quickly a couple of books on librarianship. Catalogue records I made in the beginning were riddled with errors but I have to thank library colleagues who stayed behind, particularly Mrs Hsu Ti Shan (Professor Hsu sadly passed away during the summer of 1941), for their enormous help. I also catalogued books deposited by Professor Ma in the School of Chinese according to the traditional classification scheme for Chinese books (University of Virginia acquired the collection, together with the handwritten catalogue prepared by Miss Ng, after the war).

Due to the war in China, rare books from the collections of Guangzhou Lingnan University and National Central Library at Nanjing had been deposited in the library before the occupation. The Nanjing books were meant to be forwarded to the United States for safe keeping but eventually they were held up in Hong Kong. These collections, together with other books kept in the Fung Ping Shan Library during the occupation, were fortunately returned to their rightful owners afterwards.

Staff members received rice but no wages during the Japanese occupation. Mr Lau Butt joined the library at that time (Mr Lau retired during the late 1980s, but he worked part-time until the eve of his passing away in the early 1990s). One day, when I was sorting out Professor Ma’s books in his office at Tang Chi Ngong School of Chinese, a huge Japanese military dog suddenly entered. It kept staring at me – and I was so frightened and dared not move. Fortunately, it chose to leave, backing against the door with tail out first. Around that time, I was deployed to work in the public library located in Helena May Institute, Garden Road. I ran into a dog, with a baby’s skull and clothing fragments in its month, on my way to work one day. I was terrified out of my wits. Soon afterwards I was transferred back to the Fung Ping Shan Library.

Allied aircrafts began bombing Japanese targets at Admiralty and its vicinity towards the end of the Second World War. However, bombs fell in Wanchai, Central and Western District from time to time. The library building had a lot of long windows and I had nowhere to hide. I could only take shelter under the staircases next to the steel bookshelves.

Hong Kong was liberated in mid-August 1941. On the day when allied forces landed I returned to the Fung Ping Shan Library noting that desks and chairs with the “HKU” logo were being taken away. Realizing that they were stolen from the School of Chinese, I hurried to the School and witnessed that furniture, including big book cabinets, were being moved out. I telephoned Mr Chan for help. He asked me to dissuade them from taking away university properties – and he said that there was no need to be afraid since Hong Kong had only a couple of guns. Eventually, I could only urge them not to take away library books. As a result, they took away a lot of furniture but leaving books untouched.

Written by C.F. Lee; translated by Y.C. Wan

The explosion of the field of genetics over the last decade, with the new technologies that have stimulated research, suggests that a new sort of reference work is needed to keep pace with such a fast-moving and interdisciplinary field. Brenner’s Encyclopedia of Genetics, 2nd edition, builds on the foundation of the first edition by addressing many of the key subfields of genetics that were just in their infancy when the first edition was published. The currency and accessibility of this foundational content will be unrivalled, making this work useful for scientists and non-scientists alike.

How to look at a painting / series director, Lindsay Gossling; producer, Steven O’Meagher. Falls Church, VA : Landmark Media, [2013].

Senior curator and best-selling arts author Justin Paton takes us on a highly visual journey of exploration across the painted world to uncover and examine the marvels and mysteries of painting. He demystifies art by guiding viewers through the historical and contemporary world of painting over 5,000 years, appealing to novice viewers, sceptics and experts alike.

Bible Mysteries / series producer, Anna Cox; Executive producer, Jean-Claude Bragard. [Hong Kong] : MediaMatters, [2012].

Bible Mysteries is a series of BBC TV programmes exploring great figures and events from biblical times. Historical, archaeological and anthropological evidence gives fresh insights into the historical realities of the times.

明別集叢刊. 第1輯 / 沈乃文主編. 第1版 合肥市 : 黃山書社, 2013.

《明別集叢刊》從明代政治、經濟、思想、學術、文學、藝術等方面有相當影響或極具史料文獻價值的個人詩文集中，遴選出約一千八百種明人詩文集彙編出版。《叢刊》底本主要來源於北京大學圖書館、復旦大學圖書館所藏明人別集。《叢刊》所收詩文集原則上依作者生年先後為編排順序。為給研究者提供方便，《叢刊》兼收同一詩文集的內容不盡相同的不同版本。