New Deputy Librarian

With the retirement of the Deputy Librarian/Fung Ping Shan Librarian, Dr Wan Yiu Chuen (YC), I am delighted to announce that Ms Esther Woo, former Associate Librarian, Engagement and Lending Services based in the Main Library, has taken over this role effective from April 1, 2018. Many staff and students will be familiar with Esther as she has worked in the Libraries in various roles for over 20 years. I look forward to her continuing contributions to the University and the Libraries in this crucial role.

I also take this opportunity to thank Dr Wan who has been the Deputy Librarian since 2011, the Fung Ping Shan Librarian since 2001 and has served the University and the Libraries with distinction for over 30 years. We all wish him well for the future.

Library Renovations

This calendar year commenced with renewed vigour as major renovations for the Main Library and the Medical Library commenced.

Main Library

The Second Floor Roof Garden is now complete, though still awaiting additional outdoor furniture. The Garden includes plants, flowers, a herb garden, a water feature (pond) and various open spaces for relaxing, studying or even special events.

The Ground Floor renovation is being undertaken in two phases in order to minimise disruption to users, to minimise the closure period of the Ground Floor entrance/exit and to ensure continuation of access to the collection on that floor.
Phase 1 is expected to conclude in late April 2018, when the entrance/exit should be again functional. Phase 2 will commence immediately following completion of Phase 1 and will continue until the end of May or early June 2018.

The Main Library 2nd Floor renovations are scheduled to begin in June 2018 and continue through to early 2019.

Yu Chun Keung Medical Library
Phase 1 of this project started on January 2 and will continue until the end of February. This first phase will provide for a 24 hour learning space as well as a revamped computer instruction room. Phase 2 will begin at the end of May or early June 2018.

Jasper the Resident Therapy Dog
The Library generated considerable media attention with the launch of a pilot programme, the Resident Therapy Dog, the first of its kind in Hong Kong. Though therapy dog or animal-assisted programmes already exist and have been implemented in many universities and libraries overseas, HKUL was successful in launching the first resident therapy dog programme among universities in Hong Kong. Thanks to public attention and interest in the events, the Libraries were able to demonstrate efforts in meeting the needs of students and supporting the broader interests of the University community. Positive feedback from both staff and student participants led to around 70 media related items about the programme both locally and regionally. This exposure of the programme also helped to raise public awareness of animal welfare issues in Hong Kong. We hope to continue to rely on Jasper to offer a helping paw in alleviating stress among HKU’s students and staff.

For more information about Jasper, videos, and photos, visit:

LibGuides:  
http://libguides.lib.hku.hk/jasper

YouTube:  
http://www.youtube.com/c/HKULibrariesCollection

Facebook:  
http://www.facebook.com/hkulib/

Peter E. Sidorko
University Librarian
Our Automated Book Return Unit got a makeover!

Library patrons may have noticed the new look of our Automated Book Return Unit located outside the main entrance of the Main Library. The makeover adds convenience and protection for the Library patron from bad weather conditions. The Automated Book Return allows patrons to return Library materials any time, including when the Libraries are closed. Books are checked in immediately and sorted into bins behind the scenes. You can even watch your books being sorted if you take a look through the window.

Some tips for using the Book Return Unit:
- Place one item in the Automated Book Return Unit at a time
- Take note of the posted signage in regards to what items should be or should not be returned at the Automated Book Return Unit
- During opening hours, if you encounter any problems, please approach the Lending Services Counter inside the Library
Additional tips for borrowing and returning Library materials

**Tips for borrowing and returning Library materials**

**MyAccount@HKUL**

Check MyAccount@HKUL regularly to view:
- due dates, renewals, fines, and requests

Loan period can be checked in FIND@HKUL. For general information about loan periods: lib.hku.hk/general/borrowing

Regular loans are subject to recall. If another patron places a hold, your loan will become due within two weeks.

The Library will send courtesy email reminders when your loans are coming due.

Renew in MyAccount@HKUL as many times as you want, up to the maximum renewal period (usually 6 times the original loan period) lib.hku.hk/cdd/br-renew.html

The Library will send regular reminders if you owe any fines. Queries about fines should be raised within one month of the fine accumulation.

Updated Library Regulations:
lib.hku.hk/general/services/regulations.html
Library Training
As the academic year progressed, the Main Library offered training on more specialized topics in support of research. These include workshops on SciVal, Research Data Management, NVivo, Endnote, and Turnitin. The Research Seminar on Make Your Research Count by Mr Ed Gerstner (Regional Scientific Editor, Springer Nature) held on 6 February 2018 attracted a full house in the Multi-purpose Zone on Level 3.

For the training in the 2nd semester, the Main Library experimented on Bring Your Own Device. The arrangement proved to be very successful, as participants can bring their own “learning environment” with them to the workshops. We also adopted an environmental-friendly approach, in that instead of passing out printed handouts, participants downloaded their notes online.

Web of Science User Group Meeting
The Web of Science User Group meeting was co-organized by HKUL and Clarivate Analytics under the theme Premium Research Services with Premium Research Data held in the e-Learning lab, Main Library on 24 October 2017. Presentations and panel discussion covered Research Data Management, research services and evidence-based research evaluation. The event attracted professional librarians and research support professionals from Hong Kong, China and Macau.

HKUL Chatbot (on trial)
Meet Lexica, the HKUL Chatbot! Adopting AI technology, Lexica provides instant answers to general enquiries, such as circulation, facilities booking and opening hours. This service is on trial till 4 June 2018.
Chat with Lexica: https://www.facebook.com/messages/t/hkulib
Equal Opportunity Festival
27 October 2017

The Libraries continued its support of the Equal Opportunities Festival for 2017 with a Library book exhibition. Books from the Library’s collection were selected to align with the theme of the festival, *CountmeIn*. The exhibition was held at the 2nd Floor Atrium/Exhibition Area of the Main Library from 27 October – 10 November 2017.

Peru’s Memory: 1890-1950
Photo Exhibition
13-30 November 2017

In collaboration with the Consulate General of Peru in Hong Kong and Macao, the Main Library was pleased to present *Peru’s Memory: 1890 – 1950* photo exhibition at the 2nd Floor Atrium/Exhibition Area of the Main Library from 13 - 30 November 2017.

Thirty-three photographs were selected from the “Fotografía Memoria del Perú” by photographers of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries (1890-1950) capturing the history and everyday life in Peru, including the best works of the “Golden Age of Peruvian Photography”.

“Thanks to these images and to many others like those, Peru, as we know it today, began to emerge before itself as an apprehensible reality. The natural wonders of its territory, the great monuments of its pre-Columbian past, the ancestral customs interwoven with the modernizing aspirations, the advance of the capitalist economy, and the social conflicts of a national society in formation.

*Peru’s Memory: 1890 – 1950* photos allows us to revive some of the construction processes and to value the talent of masters of the lens such as Max T. Vargas, Martin Chambi, Carlos and Miguel Vargas, Juan Manuel Figueroa Aznar, Sebastian Rodriguez, Baldomero Alejos, and Walter O. Runcie, to mention only some of the most conspicuous in this selection.”

¹Consulate General of Peru in Hong Kong and Macao

For photos of exhibitions and events, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>
The Main Library presented *Paper and Ink: Ming and Qing Dynasty Manuscripts from the Jiayetang Collection*, Fung Ping Shan Library, The University of Hong Kong exhibition at the 2nd Floor Atrium/Exhibition Area of the Main Library from 4 - 21 December 2017.

Two thousand and seventeen saw the eighty-fifth anniversary of the University of Hong Kong's Fung Ping Shan Library. Celebrated by sinologists, historians, librarians and those with even a passing interest in Chinese libraries as one of the world's great East Asian Libraries, the University of Hong Kong takes great pride in its achievements, its history and its enormous contributions to East Asian scholarship and beyond.

To mark its history and achievements, the exhibition *Paper and Ink: Ming and Qing Dynasty Manuscripts from the Jiayetang Collection*, Fung Ping Shan Library, The University of Hong Kong and an accompanying booklet were presented as an illustration of the depth and beauty of the collection as well as a celebratory reflection on the Library’s future.

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The twelve manuscripts that were on display were selectively chosen to highlight the often hidden beauty that lies in such texts with their calligraphy and illustrations worked by hand with brush and ink. One can only be left in awe upon gazing at the manuscript of the Confucian classic Congshan Du Zhouyi (A Treatise on the Book of Changes), by Fang Shisun (Song) or Shuofu (A Collection of Random Sketches), by Tao Zongyi (Yuan), said to be a “world treasure” and made before the book itself was printed. The accompanying panels to these and the other manuscripts assisted the visitor’s appreciation of what was to be found in the exhibition.

As we speed through this digital age, the exhibition provided us with an opportunity to pause and reflect, to marvel at what has preceded us and to ponder the bright future that lies ahead for the Fung Ping Shan Library as it hastens towards its centenary.

The exhibition booklet:

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**Santa Paws**

**15 December @ Medical Library / 18 December @ Main Library**

Based on the overwhelming success of previous Santa Paws session in December 2016 and May 2017, the Library coordinated two sessions at the Medical Library and Main Library during the Assessment period in December 2017.

**Santa Paws at Medical Library**

The very first Dr Dog session at the Medical Library was held on 15 Dec 2017 during the assessment period. A total of eight Dr Dogs, decked out in their festive finery for Christmas, came to dispense an hour of fun and relaxation to exam-stricken students. Over 30 students/staff attended the session and had a most wonderful time playing or taking photos with the “Doctors”. The session was so well received that we hope to hold more such sessions in future to help students relieve tension from their studies.

For photos of exhibitions and events, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>
Project Home Improvement: Movable Upgrades and Community Engagement in Hong Kong’s Subdivided Units by Urban Ecologies Design Lab
13 - 31 January 2018

In collaboration with the Urban Ecologies and Design Lab (UEDL) and the Faculty of Architecture, HKU, the Main Library was pleased to present Project Home Improvement at the 2nd Floor Atrium/Exhibition Area of the Main Library from 13 - 30 January 2017.

The UEDL exhibited research outputs works of HKU researchers and students. The works shown include forty drawings, maps and photographs, fifteen models, short videos, and virtual reality (VR) images displayed with the use of five VR goggles.

For photos of exhibitions and events, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>
The Great Dam • The Great People:  
The Centenary Tai Tam Tuk Reservoir 1918-2018 by Faculty of  
Architecture, Department of Real Estate and Construction  
1 February - 9 March 2018

In collaboration with the Department of Real Estate and Construction and the Faculty of Architecture, HKU, the Main Library was pleased to present *The Great Dam – The Great People - The centenary of Tai Tam Tuk Reservoir Dam* at the 2nd Floor Atrium/Exhibition Area of the Main Library from 1 - 29 February 2017.

The exhibition commemorated the centennial of the Tai Tam Tuk Reservoir Dam (1918) as part of the well-travelled Tai Tam Waterworks Heritage Trail by showcasing and interpreting a new collection of interdisciplinary archaeological evidence which tells the stories behind the making of the century-old Dam.

Based on an overwhelming number of visitors, the exhibition was extended to 9 March 2018.

For photos of exhibitions and events, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>
Exhibition of the Szeto Wah Collection
8 February - 11 March 2018

An exhibition on the Library’s Szeto Wah Collection was held at the Special Collections 1/F, Main Library from 6 February to 11 March 2018.

Szeto Wah was well-known to be crazy about books. He loved books since he was a child. He would murmur book contents to himself repetitively like a ritual which made him look rather foolish and thus earned him the nickname “Silly Wah”. To him, books were the food for the soul which was as important as the food one ate to stay alive. Since the age of 16, he had developed the habit of reading books every day and up to half an hour to one-and-a-half hours before bed. He preferred buying books to borrowing books. He would buy for himself a copy of the good books he once borrowed simply to show his appreciation and support. It was not surprising to find his bookshelves crammed with books and books lying in heaps here and there on his study room floor to the extent that he could hardly move around inside.

The exhibition featured Szeto Wah’s private book collection, illustrating his diverse interests in different genres through which visitors were offered a unique glimpse into his thoughts and ideas. The exhibition was well received and attracted visitors from the general public.

For photos of exhibitions and events, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>
JULAC 50th Anniversary Conference  
Library Collaboration at Dizzying Heights: Innovation and Impact

Two thousand and seventeen marked the fiftieth anniversary of JULAC (Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee). A conference in celebration of 50 years of achievements and to speculate on future developments was held at the Chong Yuet Ming Cultural Auditorium, The University of Hong Kong from 5 – 6 December 2017. The conference also focussed on deeper collaboration for JULAC through the identification and exchange of international best practices.

With the support of the 8-member Universities, the conference welcomed over 250 attendees from Hong Kong and the region during the two days. International, regional and local speakers presented a number of plenary sessions covering topics including founding history, vision and mission, strategic directions, technology collaborations, and consortium challenges and benefits.
The Main Library was pleased to support the APRU (The Association of Pacific Rim Universities) Provosts’ Forum 2018 held in the Multi-purpose Zone, Level 3, Main Library from 12 – 13 March 2018.

The Provosts Forum brought together APRU provosts or chief academic officers, as key drivers of academic strategy and output, to discuss topics of collective interest and importance to their respective institutions. Through this Forum, APRU hoped to expand the leadership networks within the consortia beyond the presidents and senior staff, and to address major issues of academic management such as quality assurance of education and research, and academic personnel.
On 23rd March, the Main Library’s Level 3 Multi-purpose Zone provided space for a one-day SMARTER@HKU Equipping for Professional Services Workshop.

http://www.smarter.hku.hk/equipping-professional-services-workshop-march-23-2018

For photos of exhibitions and events, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>
The Silver Way:  
China, Spanish America and the Birth of Globalisation, 1565-1815

Speakers: Peter Gordon and Juan José Morales  
Moderator: Roderico C. Atienza (Deputy Consul General of the Philippines in Hong Kong)  
Date: 15 November 2017 (Wednesday)

Click here to revisit the book talk:  
https://youtu.be/3HXy7riAsrs

19th Century China (and Japan) through American Eyes

Speakers: Dr Gillian Bickley  
Date: 13 March 2018 (Tuesday)

For photos of the book talks, go to our Facebook Event Page at: <https://www.facebook.com/hkulevents/>