Message from the Librarian

Libraries: Home Away From Home?

We have been wrangling over what our food and drink policy should be for the Libraries. Some believe, as I do, that libraries, in this day of Google being seen as the font of all knowledge, need to change, to become more welcoming, to become more like home if they are to retain their position as the best place on campus to study.

I surfed the WEB and began thinking that food was perhaps the only thing that we (librarians) were working on lately. A Google search for this topic – library AND “food policy” – generated 351,000 hits. I decided to try to put this in the larger perspective and did the same search but instead substituted “copyright policy” for “food policy” and got 1.8 million hits - so I guess the library world out there is not as food obsessed as it is copyright obsessed.

But the issue of the degree to which food can be consumed in the libraries remains -- particularly in this day and age when all the surveys tell us that fewer and fewer university students are going to libraries to get information. The culprit we all know is the WEB. We are no longer the only source for serious information. The 24X7 full text WEB is where the action is for most of our students. For many librarians, faced with this kind of competition, the issue becomes how to make their library more attractive as THE best study/research destination.

My staff -- all of whom love the libraries in which they work and love the books they select, order, purchase, catalogue, help people find, and preserve – are concerned that a liberalized food policy will have dire consequences.
My less than scientific WEB viewing of scores of library food policies suggests there are several justifications for loosening up on food and drink policies. The three most prevalent ones seem to be the following:

- Make the library more comfortable, more like home where you can eat, study, talk, etc., all at the same time and in the same place.
- Enable readers with competing study, work, and family demands to do at least two things at the same time: eat and study.
- Stop trying to win a losing battle. Let students eat and get out of the policing business.

Typical of policies at other “liberalizing” North American universities are the following:

**BEVERAGES**

- Beverages in re-closable, spill-proof, plastic containers may be consumed in the Library with the exception of alcoholic beverages.
- Examples of approved containers are sports bottles, commuter mugs and water bottles. Inappropriate containers include aluminum cans and any cup or bottle which cannot be re-closed.

**FOOD (Snacks Only)**

- Examples of approved snacks are chocolate bars, nutria-bars, pretzels, and cookies. Snacks that would be considered [ok] are those that do not leave stains or have a strong odour. Litter not disposed of attracts pests which are disastrous to Library materials and equipment. The Library reserves the right to determine which foods are permitted.
- Examples of inappropriate food including, pizzas, French fries, chicken or anything else that could be considered lunch or dinner are not allowed in the Library. In consideration of others, please place refuse in the appropriate receptacles provided in the Library.

Discussions of the topic of food in the library generally generate little to smile about, let alone laugh about, yet I found a couple of things on the WEB that were too good to ignore. The UK Law Library online newsletter noted “The official food and drink policy of the UK Libraries is that no food and only covered beverages are allowed in the libraries. The unofficial UK Law Library rule is that we don't enforce the official policy.”

So we return to the original question, should we make our libraries more like home in an attempt to make members of our university family want to “hang out” there more often? I think we all had the experience as a teenager of visiting friend’s homes where rules abounded: eat only in the kitchen, don’t sit on the beds, no running around, no loud noises, no talking on the phone for long periods of time, etc. Those homes were functional – they provided a roof overhead, but they were not where everyone wanted to congregate. I think we librarians may have to make a choice, we can maintain pristine homes/libraries where nothing is ever out of place or we can loosen up a bit and make our libraries more like our friends’ homes where we wanted to crowd in and have fun. What do you think?
Eileen Chang: Hong Kong Legend (1939-1941)
張愛玲再續港大半生緣
13 October - 5 November 2007
Dental Inventions and Their Stories
19 - 30 November 2007
Dental Library

To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the Faculty of Dentistry, an exhibition featuring Dental Inventions and Their Stories was held in the Dental Library. Three distinctive topics with pictures were being displayed: The Amazing Stories of Artificial Teeth, The Evolution of Dental Chair, and The Dental Machines in the 18th Century.
Reading Eileen Chang with her thirty treasures
Speaker: Mr Roland Soong
Date: 5 November 2007
Time: 7:00 – 9:00 pm
Language: Cantonese

Mr Roland Soong, administrator of Eileen Chang’s estate gave a talk on thirty select treasures from Eileen Chang, including anecdotes, literary works, manuscripts, letters and photographs.

Author Night: The Great Difference: Hong Kong's New Territories and Its People 1898–2004 / James Hayes
Speaker: Dr James Hayes
Moderator: Dr John Carroll
Date: 7 November 2007 (Wednesday)
Time: 7:15 - 9:00 pm
Language: English

The former Hong Kong civil servant in the colonial era Dr James Hayes (middle) talked about the recent past of the New Territories from 1950s to 1980s.

Coming Up
Meeting the Author Night: Dr Jason Wordie


Moderator: Prof Anthony J. Hedley
Date: 21 February 08 (Thursday)

Time: 7:15 - 9:00 pm
Venue: Special Collections, 1/F, Main Library, HKU
Language: English

Find out more about our Reading Club and its activities, visit: http://www.lib.hku.hk/friends/reading_club
The book comprises exchanges of letters and emails between Professor Lung Ying-tai and her son Mr. Andrea Walther over a three-and-a-half-year period. In the correspondences, they shared their candid views of each other and engaged in heated debates on political and cultural issues from the perspectives of their own generations. The talk attracted more than 350 audiences.

Speaker: Professor Lung Ying-tai, Mr. Andreas Walther
Moderator: Dr. Ma Ka-fai
Date: 17 November 2007
Time: 3:00 – 5:00 pm
Language: Putonghua and English

The book launch was co-organised by the Libraries and Journalism and Media Studies Centre and sponsored by Cosmo Books of Hong Kong.
Ceremony marking the Gift of Mr Chung Po Yang’s artwork “Evolving into One”

A Ceremony marking the Gift of a painting “Evolving into One” from Co-founder of DHL Express in Asia Pacific division, Mr Chung Po Yang SBS OBE JP was held on 4/F, Main Library on 14 November 2007.

Mr. Chung graduated in USA returned to Hong Kong, joined DHL Express, and co-founded its Asia Pacific division. Mr Chung has held top ranking position with the Hong Kong Trade Development Council; a doyen in international trade he assisted the University of Hong Kong set up a Centre for Asian Entrepreneurship & Business Values in January 2006. He is a committed community service leader, a social entrepreneur, a philanthropist, a patron of the arts and conservation, and now an accomplished painter.

Mr Chung's painting "Evolving into One" is one of the results deriving from his unique technique. It features superimposed mountain peaks in intense motion suggesting an amassing of youthful energies and embodies the spirits of our youths in adversity. The colours used – purple alluding the auspicious stream of "Purple Air coming from the East towards the West" and green captures the essence of success and vitality. This framed painting measuring 233cm wide and 97cm high now adorns a spacious wall in the Main Library of The University of Hong Kong, an institute where the East meets the West.

We were honoured to have Mr Chung to officiate the Ceremony and present the painting to Dr Anthony W. Ferguson, University Librarian.
Celebrating Ms Louisa Li’s retirement through Honour with Books Programme

We are grateful that Ms Louisa Li, Careers Counsellor and Director of the Career Education and Placement Centre, letting us celebrate her retirement through the Honour with Books Programme.

We also greatly appreciate the enthusiastic response of her friends to contribute funds to strengthen the Libraries’ collection on careers and related subjects. We have acknowledged them with a bookplate and a thank-you letter. Their gifts represent a lasting tribute to Ms Li for her service to students, employers and colleagues as well as her contributions to the career development of past and present students.

Ceremony in recognition of the generous support from Mr To Wai Ping

A Ceremony was held to acknowledge the generous donation of Mr To Wai-ping (BA 1979) to the University Libraries through the Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge. Part of his donation had been used to upgrade equipment in the e-Learning Lab of the Main Library.

We are proud to have Mr To to officiate the launching ceremony for e-Learning Lab new laptops. The ceremony was held 18 December 2007 at e-Learning Lab, Main Library.

(from left) Dr Ferguson, the Librarian, Miss Jean Cheung, year 3 student, Mr To Wai Ping, Mr Peter Sidorko, Deputy Librarian
Support the Libraries

Gifting Books from the Hong Kong Property Services (Agency) Limited

We would like to thank Hong Kong Property Services (Agency) Limited for the generous support to us through their book donation programme. We acknowledge them with a bookplate on those books.

Donation to the Special Collections

The Geotechnical Engineering Office of the Hong Kong government donated 431 volumes of the old laboratory testing reports in Sept. 2007.

Mr Hung Hin Hong, Chairman of the Hung On To Memorial Fund Ltd., donated 23 boxes of the annual reports of Hong Kong listed companies in November 2007.

Send a Gift and Support the Libraries

"I feel as though I have returned home, because Hong Kong and the University of Hong Kong are the birthplace of my knowledge". "我有如遊子歸家，因為香港與香港大學是我知識誕生之地". Dr Sun Yat-sen, 1923.

The Libraries now has added neckties and scarves with this poignant Chinese characters "我有如遊子歸家", commemorating Dr Sun Yat-sen's address made at HKU's Loke Yew Hall in 1923, to our collection of souvenirs.

Other souvenirs include greeting cards with illustrations from our rare book collection, the world’s only copy of a 1798 edition of George Staunton's An Authentic Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain of China, published in 1798. The illustrations give a fascinating account of Lord Macartney’s diplomatic mission from 1792 to 1794 to seek an audience with Emperor Qianlong.

You can now own these special souvenirs or buy these as festive gifts for your friends and relatives through mail order (http://lib.hku.hk/friends/shopping/form.doc) or purchase directly from HKU Main Library Express Return Counter (Mon-Fri 9am - 4pm or Sun 10am - 4pm)
International Law in Domestic Courts

*International Law in Domestic Courts* is a regularly updated case reporting service focusing on cases from close to 70 jurisdictions dealing with matters of international law issues, with an archive dating back to 2000.

Besides full texts of judgments in their original language, it includes analytical expert commentary which highlights key issues and the most salient points of each case, together with English translations of key sections of non-English language decisions. Updates with new cases are bimonthly and over 150 new cases are added each year.

**Coverage & potential users**

This online service is of particular interest to those teaching, studying and researching private and public international law, human rights and comparative law, including: immunities, individuals and human rights, international criminal law, international economic law, international environmental law, international organizations, international responsibility, law of the sea, law of treaties, organs of the state, relationship between international and domestic law, sources of international law, statehood, state succession, territory, use of force and the law of armed conflict. Given the span of subjects covered, this database will also be useful for those researching international relations and cases involving political disputes.
Functionality highlights

In addition to a Quick search template, its Advanced search options allow searching by:

- Jurisdiction (more than 60), Parties, ILDC case number, Dates, and 18 key category (high level categories similar to the main chapter headings in a treatise).
- Each case has a well defined structure including fields such as Facts, Held, Commentary, Judgment. Printing can be done for the full report, or limited to only the Headnote section. Hyperlinks are conveniently provided for cases listed under the Key Cases Cited section which are covered in full text in ILDC.

Another useful feature is the embedding of WebBridge function in the Commentary section. Any secondary sources cited in the commentary provided by expert commentators can be conveniently traced against the Libraries’ catalogue using this function.

Value of ILDC: comparing with existing resources

Many existing library resources in HKUL contain international law materials, notably international law cases, such as (a) International Legal Materials [http://library.hku.hk/record=b1407933], which covers texts of treaties, UN resolutions and selected judgments from international courts and occasional judgments from US cases on international law; (b) International Law Reports [http://library.hku.hk:80/record=b1417933] which includes judgments from international courts and tribunals and from domestic courts; (c) Lexis.com and Westlaw International also offer coverage of various jurisdictions, primarily UK and the US. These are, however, not selected or indexed for relevance to international law and, for non-English language judgments, do not have commentaries or translations into English.

ILDC policy is to cover case law not only from states but from certain territorial entities that are not generally classified as states, in recognition of the fact that judicial decisions of such entities can be of interest to international law, as recognized among others by the International Court of Justice and the European Court of Human Rights. ILDC is thus useful as a one-stop source for researchers to pinpoint specific legal issues and to compare how they have been treated across multiple jurisdictions or entities – a painstaking process and one that often may not be comprehensive, if it were to be done separately on scattered resources.

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To access International Law in Domestic Courts, search by Title on Dragon, HKUL catalogue, or click this link [http://library.hku.hk/record=b3742241].
Loan Quota and Dependent Children Library Cards

The Libraries is delighted to let you know that the loan quota of all non-academic staff members has been increased to 24 books and 6 AV items in November. Borrowing privileges have also been extended to dependent children of HKU staff members. To be eligible for a library card, a dependent child has to be above 16 and below 25 years of age. For a dependent child who is between 19 and 25 years of age, a document to show full-time study is also needed. This card allows borrowing of 24 books, 6 AV items and access to electronic resources on-site. Details of borrowing privileges can be viewed at <http://lib.hku.hk/general/borrowing/#60>. To submit applications electronically please visit http://lib.hku.hk/cgi-bin/check_form/SDCCA-form.

New Network Printing System

In mid October, HKU Libraries launched a new and improved network printing system which supports payments by Octopus and Copykey cards. This new system is faster than the old system with a speed of 30 pages per minute on both B&W and colour printing. It also supports multiple pages printing on a single page that the old system could not do.

The new system comes with all new colour printers. If a print job is sent to a colour printer and has some color pages only, the new system will charge the colour printing rate, for only the colour pages. The Libraries reduced the colour printing charge rate from HK$4.5 to HK$3.3 at the same time of the system launch.

The user guide of the new system can be found on the technical support page of the Knowledge Navigator Centre (http://lib.hku.hk/techsupport/knc.html).

The existing computer printing card system will run in parallel with this new system until 1 Apr 2008. Refund of any remaining balance on a valid printing card will begin shortly.

Note: The Copykey card is a supplementary payment method to support visitors who do not have Octopus cards or those who need receipts after printing or photocopying. It can be borrowed from the Main or Branch Libraries. Users will pay the charges upon return of the card.

Payment by Octopus Card

The Libraries is pleased to announce that library users can use Octopus Cards for payments in the Main Circulation and Registration Counters from 2008 onwards. Payments, which are under HK$500, for overdue fines and purchase of souvenirs will be accepted.

ITSA Help for Computer Problems at Main Library

Since November 2007, Information Technology Student Ambassador (ITSA), Computer Society, HKUSU and the Libraries has collaborated in providing a helpdesk service for solving computer related problems at the Main Library.

The helpdesk is now temporarily closed during the term break and will be back to service in January 2008 when the second semester starts. If you have any computer problems or other related enquiries, you are most welcome to visit the ITSA helpdesk at:

Venue: G/F Main Library (next to Ref Counter)
Time: 12:00 noon - 2:00 pm
Date: Monday to Friday (mid-January 2008)

For more information about ITSA, please visit http://www.hku.hk/itsa, or send email to itsa@hkusua.hku.hk or inventordavid@yahoo.com
Win a $500 ParknShop Coupon by Completing the LibQual+ Survey

The Libraries has conducted a user survey during the period from 12 November through to 2 December, 2007. This survey is based on a quality audit instrument developed in North America, also used in Europe and Australia, and now being pioneered in Hong Kong at all eight UGC institutions. Results from this survey will enable us to benchmark our services against those of other libraries in universities throughout the world, so that we can build the quality you deserve and need.

In appreciation for the time of the participants, we offered them the chance to win a HK$500 Park'nShop gift coupon or one of 50 of the Libraries souvenirs http://lib.hku.hk/friends/shopping/index.html. The winner of the gift coupon is Mr Ivan Gui.

Wiki@HKUL

The HKU Libraries is pleased to announce the launch of Wiki@HKUL -- http://kb.lib.hku.hk.

Wiki@HKUL is the Knowledge Base to the HKU Libraries. It serves as a quick (or the Hawaiian expression -- wiki) way for users to know more about the library. One might consider it effectively is an FAQ, but there is more to it.

The initial content of this Knowledge Base has enquiries handled and library course materials. online renewals, to information search, e.g. infant stage, it can be considered as an

But, with the adoption of wiki (a Web 2.0 and become a platform for sharing input of library staff from various can be disseminated in a quick and

We also welcome library users to contribute pertaining to information search. Simply click authenticate with your HKU Portal UID/ Library these pages. Join in and share your library search experience!

Please note that to ensure data authenticity, pages related to library policies, such as loan quota, are marked protected and can only be edited by library staff.
We are glad that the coming book sale will be held on 19 -20 January 2008. Close to 10,000 books which are either duplicates donated by our supporters or unneeded copies of books from the library collection will be sold at HK$20 and up.

We believe that selling these books at very reasonable prices not only promotes reading but insures that these books do not lie unused and forgotten. The proceeds from the book sale will be used to purchase new books and to enhance the services of the Libraries.

2008 Book Sale will be held:

Date:
Saturday, 19 January 2008 (9:00 am - 7:00 pm)
- Sunday, 20 January 2008 (10:00 am – 7:00 pm)

Venue:
2/F Main Library, HKU, Pokfulam Road, HK

Corpora—large collections of written and/or spoken text stored and accessed electronically—provide the means of investigating language that is of growing importance academically and professionally. This new six-volume collection brings together the most significant articles in the field of corpora, and is arranged thematically.

Comprehensive glycoscience: from chemistry to systems biology [4-vol.set] / editor-in-chief, Johannis P. Kamerling; editors, Geert-Jan Boons ... [et al.].

Carbohydrates are an important part of life and are present in bacteria, fungi, viruses, yeast, plants, animals and humans. This work has a very broad scope and will appeal to a wide audience as it explores the interactions between biology, chemistry and molecular biology towards understanding, synthesising and developing glycoproteins, glycolipids, proteoglycans and polysaccharides, which are important molecules in nature for controlling health and disease and food and feed.

Frenchs Forest, N.S.W.: BBC Active, c2006.

Gerry Robinson is notorious for transforming vast companies by sacking the bosses. He’s run everything from Coca Cola to the Granada Media Empire, and he took the International Forte Hotel Chain away from the Forte family in one the bloodiest take-over battles in British business. Robinson shares his international business genius with companies who are crucially in need of help. When it comes to running a successful business, Robinson says that it’s vital to have the right person at the top and to have an unbeatable business strategy.

早期上海經濟文獻匯編 / 責任編輯姜亞沙 ; 編輯者姜亞沙, 經莉, 陳湛綺. [40 冊]
北京 : 全國圖書館文獻縮微复制中心, 2005.

上海是中國經濟的搖籃，早在二十世紀初期就是中國經濟的風向標。本叢書收集了上海早期最具有影響力的刊物，與文獻從諸多方面反映了上海經濟動態和對全國經濟發展的影響，並詳細地介紹了舊中國的經濟動向、財政統計、和上海本地各行業的經濟情況。
Accolades

Staff Recognition Award

This quarterly award is given periodically to recognise a staff member whose presence contributes in an extraordinary way to the Libraries. Award winner will receive HK$500 and a book plate to honor his dedication.

Ms Connie Lam of the E-resources and Serials Cataloguing Unit, has been selected as the award recipient of the Staff Recognition Program for the fourth quarter of 2007. Connie and her team were largely responsible for HKU contributing the most records to OCLC last year. She is always very helpful and pleasant with a smile for everyone.

Past Staff Recognition Award Recipients:
- Leong Chau Iu (Access Services Department)
- Jimmy Sung (Systems Department)
- Lillian Lucke (Medical Library)
- Chan Wai Sun (Administrative Services Team)
- Chan Min Sze, Ivy (Lui Che Wo Law Library)
- Marine Yip (Administrative Services Team)
- To Siu King (E-resources and Serials Cataloguing Unit)

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