The University of Hong Kong Libraries

Annual Report

20
Caring, Collaborative, Creative
Vision
The University of Hong Kong Libraries seeks to sustain and enhance the University’s excellence as an institution of higher learning, as a pre-eminent international university in Asia, and to provide outstanding teaching and world-class research support collections and services so as to produce well-rounded graduates with lifelong abilities to provide leadership within the societies they serve.
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As you read through this annual summary of the work performed by the staff of the Libraries, I am sure you will be impressed by all their accomplishments:

- Since we are running out of space, the Libraries moved many of its own staff out of the Main Library to an office building in Kennedy Town and installed 10,940 linear metres of compact shelving to help contain the growth of the collection while the shared repository for the eight UGC supported academic institutions is being built (an effort led by HKU).

- We added 9.5 terabytes (TB) of computer storage to bring the Libraries own capacity up to a total of 47.5 TB to store digitized books, photographs, recordings, etc.

- We have been actively involved in the knowledge transfer process including giving talks and writing articles to share our expertise, taking part in exchange programs with libraries in China, obtaining permission from publishers so that we can share hundreds of thousands of journal articles and e-books with Western District secondary school students in Hong Kong, donating thousands of books to libraries in Sichuan, and sharing the research results of HKU scholars with others around the world by means of the HKU Scholars Hub, the University’s institutional repository.

- We have continued our aggressive building of electronic resources while adding more than 88,000 printed books and journals to the collection.

- This was the year in which we instituted the use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags to help us keep the books in good order and to enable the use of multiple book self-check stations. Our staff put more than one million tags in Main Library books in less than half a year’s time.

- Through attrition and reorganization, we added two more faculty subject specialist librarians. They and their collection development, branch and reference department colleagues taught 517 information skills training sessions and answered nearly 70,000 questions during the year.
This has not only been an eventful year, but it marks the beginning of planning in earnest for all the students who will come to the University because of the four-year undergraduate curriculum reform. We will not only have more students in the Libraries, but they will be younger than ever before. This means we will need:

- More copies of frequently used undergraduate reading materials.
- More multi-disciplinary texts.
- Increased funding for licensing costs for electronic materials, many of which are priced on the basis of the numbers of students served.
- More staff to train more students than ever before. While it is true that today’s students are highly computer literate, their secondary school experience has not prepared them to navigate the depth and breadth of our electronic resources including nearly 1.9 million e-books, 58,000 e-journals and more than 700 databases which come from scores of publishers and operate differently from each other.

While our staff is both excited and wary of all of these changes, we are ready to move forward even in the face of budget shortages.

For me, I am also excited to look beyond the University to new horizons as I retire from service to the Libraries. These years have provided my most memorable professional experiences. We have a great staff and a wonderful University which aspires to greatness. I leave this wonderful combination to my successor – as soon as he or she is recruited.

Dr Anthony W. Ferguson
University Librarian
As one of our principal means of communicating with and identifying faculty and student needs, our faculty librarian service expanded with the recruitment of faculty librarian positions for the Social Sciences and Business & Economics Faculties. These two positions will enable the Libraries to better understand, and therefore support, the learning, teaching and research needs of those faculties.

Our Faculty, Branch and Reference Librarians continue to provide valuable linkages with our user community both specialised and of a general nature. Our in-depth research consultation service to faculty and postgraduate students remains popular, with the Faculties of Social Sciences and Education making particularly extensive use of the service. This service not only provides researchers with sessions tailored to meet their specific needs, it provides the Libraries with the added opportunity of engaging with researchers and further understanding their information needs. Our librarians also participated in a host of Faculty based events aimed at enhancing the student experience including welcome receptions for new students, postgraduate student orientation programmes and summer school programmes, e.g. Social Science Research Methods and Asia as the Global Future.

While this year is the “off” year for our biennial user survey, we continued to solicit user feedback through our well utilised “Comments and Suggestions” web form. We also undertook an evaluation survey on our Knowledge Navigation Centre in the Main Library which resulted in several improvements. Our Education Librarian conducted a series of interviews and focus group sessions with staff and students to garner ideas for supporting particular courses. The Education Library also conducted a questionnaire to identify means for improving its infrastructure, services, facilities, collections and opening hours. The Medical Librarian also conducted focus group sessions aimed at improving library instruction sessions.

As technology evolves, we strive to take full advantage of these developments to improve our communication and outreach capabilities. In particular we have expanded our use of Web 2.0 functionalities including:

- Development of Twitter and Plurk accounts named "Nanosearch_HKUL" to disseminate reference news and interesting search hints;

- Expansion of our wiki, Wiki@HKUL (the HKUL knowledge base enabling users to explore the Libraries and to share their thoughts and experience), to a total of 88 pages with more than 50,000 page views;

- Creating a presence in Facebook, in order to alert our users to new services, resources and activities.
The economic downturn of 2008 has provided further justification for our preference for electronic versions over print as these serve to reduce both subscription and processing costs. Furthermore, during the past year, price increases for print materials has been significantly higher than for e-versions. Accordingly, our migration from print to e-books has accelerated and will continue as they offer value-added online contents (including cross-publisher linking, multimedia features and supplementary spreadsheet files), as publishers increase output in front list titles and because they serve to free up valuable library space. Faculty and students also continue to demand increasing access to e-resources because their accessibility enables learners and researchers to integrate resources into their workflow and increase productivity in research. The integration of books and journals on a common platform further enhances the process of discovery through greater connectivity and providing researchers with a broader perspective.

To remain flexible and responsive to current information needs in today’s environment of rapid growth of information but decline in funding support, the Collection Development Team has begun to work with faculties to evaluate current subscriptions and licenses by identifying non-core resources with the aim of substituting low usage non-core titles by article delivery, and to reduce duplication of electronic versions of e-journals across multiple platforms to realise any possible savings. Through working with the Shared Electronic Resources Fund Advisory Committee (SERFAC) in committing to a long-term e-only goal, the Libraries successfully realised savings of HK$4.5 million dollars for new resource purchases in 2008/09.

Despite our increasing expenditure and reliance upon e-resources, we still managed to add 88,221 volumes to our print and non-print (microforms and audio-visual) collections, representing more than an 8% increase on last year’s volume intake. Some of the more notable areas of collection development activity include:

- The acquisition of a range of Hong Kong materials for Special Collections including government reports, company annual reports, materials from politicians and political parties, individual donations of books and photographs;

- Collection analysis and assessment was undertaken in many subject areas in order to identify inadequacies in supporting new academic programmes, to determine areas where collections supporting the University’s strategic research themes (SRT) need strengthening, and to meet accreditation needs for a range of courses.
To enable our users to help themselves, we introduced self-check stations into the Main Library. This was made possible after we installed over 1.1 million radio frequency identification (RFID) tags into items with barcodes. This now enables users to check out and check in their own library books and has served to reduce queues at the lending counter. Furthermore, when the library remains open 24 hours during the exam periods with only security staff in attendance, users are able to continue to borrow materials. Over one third of loan transactions are performed through the self-check machines.

Despite sending further low usage materials to our Hing Wai storage facility, the requests for that collection saw a marked drop over the previous year with a 20% reduction in articles and 11% reduction in books. Of the nearly 1,600 scanned articles we delivered from the facility, 99% were delivered within one working day, and of the 5,125 books delivered, 98% arrived within 2 working days.

We improved access to our Dragon catalogue by introducing a next generation library catalogue. We chose Innovative Interfaces, Inc. (III)’s Encore which introduces a range of Web 2.0 functions to our catalogue and enables library resource discovery to be more intuitive, user friendly and comprehensive.

We continued strong promotion for our audio-visual collection by setting up web pages, creating posters, setting up a mailing list for updating users of new titles, creating a “top 5” titles on the website which is updated regularly and we are converting TV programs from DVD to digital format so they can be accessible through the e-Video platform.

We continue to help users to find the information that they need and to use our growing collections effectively. One of the means by which we achieve this is through the range of instructional classes and presentations we conduct. This year we conducted a total of 517 such sessions that reached over 12,000 participants. Secondly, we helped users more immediately as well by answering their specific questions in the library or remotely. This year we answered 69,400 such questions across our range of service points. This represents a 9% increase over the previous year with our Special Collections witnessing a 31% increase. The number of these requests received through email continues to rise with a 22% jump on last year’s figure.

In preparation for the Centennial Campus, and the need to support the Learning Commons to be located there, we introduced an experimental book delivery service to a selection of Arts Faculty members. This service allows for the selected faculty to request items from the Libraries’ shelves and to have them delivered to their offices, saving them from the need to personally visit the library and search for those books. We will evaluate the service at the end of 2009.

The opening hours of the Main Library were extended to 24 hours during the revision period and examination period in December 2008 and April/May 2009. Users could access most of the public facilities in the Main Library with the food and drink policy relaxed for certain areas.

In response to user demand on the extension of library hours, the Education Library revised its hours to open at 10:00 am thereby extending its availability by two hours per day.

We initiated a laptop loaning program in the Main Library. Aimed at those users who do not want to bring their own laptop to the Library, we have made 20 laptops available for loan on a daily basis. Since its inception, the service has been well received and highly utilized.
Construction works were carried out between December 2008 and June 2009 to install a new compact shelving system on the second floor of the Main Library’s New Wing. The system will add around 10,940 linear metres to our current shelving space and is expected to help accommodate the collection growth in Main Library for the coming three years.

We continue to annually upgrade our technical infrastructure. We now provide 408 PCs for public access, which includes 46 laptops in our e-Learning Lab and 20 laptops for on loan purposes. For storage, we have added 9.5 TB storage space for servers related to e-Video and e-resources. With this addition, the total of all HKUL-hosted storage is now 47.5 TB.
Recycling bins are now provided on library premises to encourage recycling of materials by library users and staff.

We continued to liaise with Faculty and the University architects to work on fine-tuning plans for the general layout of facilities for the new Law and Music Libraries to be housed in the forthcoming Centennial Campus.
This has been a very busy year for knowledge exchange in the Libraries. We have actively shared the expertise of the Libraries staff and its knowledge resources with others locally, regionally and globally.
Sharing expertise with others in the local community


- Chan, W.M. Part-time tutor, Professional Development Course for Teacher Librarians and Certificate for Library Assistants, SPACE, HKU; HKUL representative, HKCAN Workgroup and Bibliographic Services Committee (JULAC); Secretary, Hong Kong Innovative Users Group Unicode Task Force; HKUL representative, Union Catalog of Chinese Ancient Books Project.


- Palmer, D.T. & Ferguson, A.W. Founding members of the cross-institutional Hong Kong Open Access Committee.


- Wan, Y.C. Member of the Advisory Committee on the Hong Kong Memory Project, Home Affairs Bureau; Member of the Church Historical Archives Management Committee, Hong Kong Chinese Christian Churches Union.


- Yiu, A. Library Skills Training session for Grade 12 students at Yew Chung International School, as part of HKUL Outreach Programme.
Sharing of information with other local libraries

In addition to traditional interlibrary loans, there were other efforts throughout the year to share the Libraries’ resources with others in the local community. For example, the Special Collections provided Hong Kong’s schools, broadcasters, and other cultural institutions with access to its Hong Kong collections:

- Buddhist Wai Yan Memorial College (佛教慧因法師紀念中學) for their 2009 project on Hong Kong history and culture;
- Cable TV for their TV program 時事寬頻 in 2008;
- Hong Kong S.K.H. Lady MacLehose Centre (香港聖公會麥理浩夫人中心) for their 2009 Community Development Projects;
- Radio Television Hong Kong for the following TV programs in 2008 and 2009: 香港歷史系列 [香港體育的歷史和發展 [錢綱集 ] [老義正傳 ]
- Royal Asiatic Society, Hong Kong Branch for their research in August and December 2008;
- TVB for their 2009 program: Pearl Report (明珠檔案);
- Wong Shiu Chi Secondary School (王肇枝中學) for their 2009 projects: the history of Shek Kip Mei Fire; the rainstorm disasters in Hong Kong in March 2009.

Special Collections also lent materials to the following groups for exhibitions or to help them fulfill their other needs:

- French Consulate for their 2008-2009 exhibition Building Together;
- Hong Kong Exchanges and Clearing Limited for a 2009-2010 exhibition;
- Hong Kong Museum of History for their 2009 Modern Metropolis and other exhibitions;
- Medical Council of Hong Kong for conducting disciplinary inquiries.

In another groundbreaking step, the Libraries established agreements with the Founder Group’s Apabi publishing arm, CNKI, and OCLC’s NetLibrary to allow it to provide free database access to selected Hong Kong Western and Central District secondary schools.
Library tours conducted for members of the local community

Throughout the year various parts of the Libraries were called upon to provide specialized tours to members of the community. Here are but two examples:

- Special Collections provided an introduction to the Robert Morrison collection for students of the theological program of the Hong Kong Methodist Church, the Divinity School of Chung Chi College and Chinese University’s Centre for Christian Studies;

- The Medical Library provided tours to a wide range of schools in Hong Kong including students from the School of Chinese Medicine; the Chinese Medicine Summer Camp; the Methodist College; the Tak Sun Secondary School; the St. Paul’s Co-educational College; the Hong Kong True Light College Dept of Nursing Studies; the CCC Ming Kei College Department of Nursing Studies; and the Diocesan Girls’ School.

Exhibits showcasing HKU information resources to the local community

- The Audio Visual Collection sponsored a number of online exhibits throughout the year including those for the Oscars, the Hong Kong Film Awards and the Golden Horse Awards.

- The Reference Department sponsored many exhibitions including a colorful exhibit focusing on The Olympic Games (奧林匹克運動會) from 1 August 2008 - 5 September 2008 and The Pearl River Delta as seen from Satellite images (從高分辨衛星圖像看珠江三角洲的發展) from 16 September 2008 - 30 September 2008.

- The Special Collections held an exhibition from 24 to 26 April 2009 on the best photos of the Joint-University Wildlife Photo Competition TOUCH, which was co-organized by the Environmental Life Science Society, HKUSU, Environmental Science Society, CUHK SU, Green Club, LUSU and Greenbird, HKIEdSU.

- The Medical Library organized a booth with posters and books on medical humanities at The Institute of Medical and Health Sciences Education Annual Conference – Making Doctors Human from 11 to 12 December 2008.
Book Talk Series

The Libraries Circle of Friends’ very popular Book Talk series not only gave members of the community an opportunity to visit the Main Library but it also successfully brought students, staff, alumni and members of the general public together to listen to new ideas and share information with each other. This year our programs included:


- Xu Xi (許素綿) spoke on *Hong Kong 24 X 7: the City that Invades Our Art*.  Moderator: David Clarke.  27 November 2008.


- Ida Chan Yun Chi (陳潤芝), Lucy Chan Wai Yee (陳慧兒), Mak Yin Ting (麥燕庭), Tse Chi Fung (謝志峰) spoke on *People Will Not Forget* (人民不會忘記).  Moderator: Mr Chris Yeung (楊健興先生).  2 June 2009.

- Roland Soong (宋以朗) spoke on *Eileen Chang’s Little Reunion* (張愛玲『小團圓』).  26 February 2009.


Regional Knowledge Exchange

Sharing expertise with others in the regional community
Branching further afield, the Library staff shared their professional expertise within the greater China and Asian communities:


- Ferguson, A.W. New uses of technology, including Web 2.0 at the HKU Libraries, presented at a meeting of Sichuan librarians sponsored by the University of Sichuan, Chengdu, China, 13 October, 2008.

- Ferguson, A.W. University library collection development in the digital environment: Hong Kong case, presentation at *the Library Collection Development Under the Digital Environment: Challenges and Measures* held in conjunction with the 10th Anniversary celebration of the founding of CALIS (China Academic Libraries Information System), Beijing, 2 December, 2008.

- Ferguson, A.W. Tea’s contribution to the demise of the Qing Dynasty and the cause of the Opium War, presentation at the opening of the *Gleaming Qing Ming: Exhibition of Chinese Tea Culture Literature* (明前清和：中國茶文化文獻展) exhibition sponsored by the Macau Civic and Municipal Affairs Bureau, Macau, 9 April, 2009.


- Ferguson, A.W. The importance of Chinese e-resources in Hong Kong: CNKI at the University of Hong Kong, presentation at the 2009 CNKI - Hong Kong/Macau/ Taiwan Chinese Digital Library Integration and Value-added Services Summit Forum, Beijing, 18 May, 2009.

- Ferguson, A.W. HKU Libraries experience with the use of CNKI resources joint presentation with Angela Ko at the *Shanxi Province Higher Librarian’s Annual Conference*, Shang Luo, Shanxi, 21 May, 2009.


• Palmer, D.T. Open Access, 10th Asia Pacific Knowledge Management Conference, Hong Kong, 4 December 2008.


• Sidorko P.E. What was once old …Two recent initiatives at HKU, Herding Tigers: Digital Proliferation and Management, PRDLA Meeting, Singapore Management University, 29-31 October 2008. <http://prdla.ucmercedlibrary.info/?page_id=29>

• Sidorko P.E. Reconsidering academic library services in a digital world (Keynote speech), 2009 Annual Meeting of University and College Librarians in Taiwan, National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan, 14-15 May 2009.


• Wan, Y.C. The University of Hong Kong Libraries: History, Present and Prospect, Staff Training Programme of Jinan University Library, Jinan University, Guangzhou, 17 October 2008.

• Wan, Y.C. & Ko, A. 閱讀典藏在香港 (Reading and book collecting in Hong Kong), Digital Reading and Archives Seminar, Taipei, Taiwan, 5 February 2009.

• Wan, Y.C., Chan, I. & Chan, E. 從香港出發：香港大學孔安道紀念圖書館華僑華人文獻之收集、整理與簡介 (Departing from Hong Kong: Chinese overseas materials at Hung On-To Memorial Library of The University of Hong Kong), 4th International Conference of Institute and Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies, Guangzhou, China, 9-11 May 2009.
Sharing of information resources with libraries in China: regional book donations

• The Libraries donated 85 boxes of duplicate and out of scope gift books to the Sichuan University Libraries for redistribution to libraries which were damaged by the earthquake.

• The Dental Library donated 1,500 duplicate books to the School of Stomatology, Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China, in July 2008.

Library tours conducted for visitors from the region
The Main Library Reference Department shoulders by far the main responsibility for conducting tours for visitors from the region. Last year they conducted in excess of 50 such tours. But other departments get involved as well:

• The Collection Development Department provided specialized tours for representatives from the China Library Society and the Association of Chinese Graduate Schools;

• The Medical Library received guests from the Peking University Health Science Center; the Sun Yat Sen University; the Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine; Seoul Women's College of Nursing; and delegations from Jiangsu and Guangzhou provinces.

Regional staff exchange and internships

• Ms Meng Xianfen, Director of Reference Department, Shantong University Library came to HKU from 2 to 14 November 2008.

• Mr Kim Hwa Taek, the librarian responsible for electronic resources, Seoul National University Library from 1 February to 14 March 2009.

• Mr Zhang Hongyan, Director of Circulation Department, Tianjin University of Science and Technology Library from 8 to 26 June 2009.
Sharing expertise with others in the global community


- Ferguson, A.W. Violated or elated? (Open and web access), *Against the Grain*, June, 2008, 20: 86.

- Ferguson, A.W. In the X Movie (Advent of print on demand technology), *Against the Grain*, September, 2008, 20: 94.


- Ferguson, A.W. Academic libraries during and after the May 2008 earthquake, jointly presented with Angela Ko at the 28th Annual Charleston Conference, Charleston, South Carolina, 7 November, 2008.


- Ferguson, A.W. Open access, the turning point, and methadone, *Against the Grain*, February, 2009, 21: 94.

- Ferguson, A.W. Silence is golden if you are in the market for a dead library (Relaxing noise rules in libraries), *Against the Grain*, April, 2009, 21: 86.

- Ferguson, A.W. There is an old saying that goes no good turn goes unpunished (Relaxing food and drink and rules in libraries), *Against the Grain*, June, 2009, 21: 94.


Sharing of information with libraries globally

- HKU Libraries is an active member, as well as the first non-North American participant of the RAPID Interlibrary loan program, a consortia of 166 academic libraries worldwide which scan and share journal articles from their collections within 24 hours of receiving a request.

- The Libraries is a member, as well as the first non-North American participant, of the Center for Research Libraries, a group of major research libraries which collects and shares rarely held research materials.

- The Libraries participates in the resource sharing programs of the OCLC library consortium of 171,000 libraries in 112 countries.

- The Libraries contributed 82,511 original records, second most in the world, to OCLC’s WorldCat database to be shared with other member libraries; and participated in OCLC’s Expert Community Experiment project. The University Librarian also serves on OCLC’s Board of Trustees.

- We donated 120 boxes of duplicate Hong Kong & related materials to the Canada-Hong Kong Library, University of Toronto & York University under exchange programs between the two Libraries.

Library tours conducted for visitors from abroad

- The Main Library Reference Department provided tours for a total of 113 visitors from other countries.

- The Education Library supported the Crimson Summer Exchange Program by allowing a group of overseas student teachers from Harvard, Yale and Cambridge universities to make use of the Education Library during July 2008.
A global channel for full text access to the research results of HKU’s staff and student scholarship

The Libraries maintains the Universities’ Scholars Hub, the Open Access channel to the full text research results of our staff and students’ research. This past year there were 1.5 million downloads of articles, etc., by researchers world-wide. To improve the effectiveness of the Hub, during the past year we added 3,236 items; sent thousands of individualized emails to HKU authors seeking their permission to upload their materials; worked with Professor John Bacon-Shone to write a white paper entitled The Open Access Advantage; redesigned the look and feel of the Hub; created an online publisher policy database which HKU authors and staff can quickly check to see what rights they have to load materials into the Hub; created links to automatically import citation counts from Scopus and Web of Science; and began a bibliometric project, to find HKU author errors in the Scopus and Web of Science databases.
Staff Matters
Professional Development

Alice Lo Sau-wai, Diploma in Human Resource Management, School of Continuing Education, Hong Kong Baptist University, April 2009.

Annabelle Pau Kwok-po, Graduate Diploma in Adult Education & Training, hku School of Professional and Continuing Education, December 2008.


Long Service Awards

35 years
Chu Tsun-wing (Senior Library Assistant)
Josa Wong Yun-kuen (Library Assistant III)
Yip Wai-sum (Library Assistant III)

15 years
Chau Tak-yan (Bookbinder)
Chun Lai-ching (Cleaner)
Ann Kwok Wai-wo (Library Assistant III)
Betty Lam Ying-yee (Junior Library Assistant)
Sherman Lau Tung-pui (Technician)
Leung Lau Kin-man (Library Assistant)
Joanne Liu Wai-shum (Library Assistant II)
Eanny Ng Chi-kwok (Library Assistant II)
Ng Pui-yung (Bookbinder)
Szeto Kwok-cheong (Library Assistant)
Tsang Fung-nee (Library Assistant II)
Marine Yip Mei-ling (Secretary I)
Bonnie Young Ngai-hung (Library Assistant II)
Tristan Yung Hau-hong (Library Assistant II)

Promotions

Nancy Chan Lai-sze (Assistant Librarian I), Collection Development
Mag Chan Yin-mak (Library Assistant I), Western & E-resources Cataloguing
Andy Choi Kwong-yin (IT Officer), Systems
Sherry Chu Ng Chi-fun (Library Assistant I), Medical Library
Louise Liu Yin-ping (Library Assistant I), Dental Library
Diana Tsui Po-ling (Assistant Librarian II), Reference
Stella Yiu Hang-lan (Library Assistant I), Western & E-resources Cataloguing
Christine Yiu Miu-hing (Library Assistant I), Western & E-resources Cataloguing

Staff Recognition Awards

Betty Lam Ying-yee, Law Library
Leung Kai-kwong, Access Services
Esther Woo Mei-wa, Administrative Services

Transfers

Austin Chan Lok-sang (Library Assistant), Music Library
Chloe Cheng Yuk-fung (Library Assistant II), Dental Library
Amanda Harizan (Assistant Librarian II), Music Library (part-time)
Oliver Ho Chi-keung (Library Assistant I), Music Library
Louise Liu Yin-ping (Library Assistant II), Dental Library
Fanny Ng Fung-in (Library Assistant I), Education Library
Joan Sia Mei-lai (Library Assistant II), Acquisitions
Wong Chee-bor (Library Assistant III), Music Library
Lucinda Wong Kit-ting (Assistant Librarian I), Collection Development
Ben Wong Ngai-kwong (Library Assistant III), Access Services
Xenia Yeung Wing-ching (Library Assistant), AV Collection
**New appointments**
Kammy Chan Kit-yee (Library Assistant), Special Collections  
Melody Chan Pui-yan (Library Assistant), Western & E-resources Cataloguing  
Eunice Chan Sin-yi (IT Officer), Hong Kong Memory Project  
Chow Wai-ching (Library Assistant), Western & E-resources Cataloguing  
Anita Hung Ka-kee (Library Assistant), Administrative Services  
Harry Lam Ho-kin (Junior Library Assistant), Public Relations and Development  
Elaine Lam Yi-ling (Library Assistant), AV Collection  
Anthea Lee See-wai (Library Assistant), Western & E-resources Cataloguing  
Eliot Liu Zhao-hua (Research Assistant I), Systems  
Horace Mok Lai-shun (Library Assistant), Systems  
Alexander John Nightingale (Junior Library Assistant), Systems  
Wang Hao-yu (Senior Research Assistant), Special Collections  
Wong Chung-yan (Library Assistant), Special Collections  
Wong Kwok-to (Library Assistant), Systems  
Wong Yuk-wah (Part-time Library Assistant), Law Library  
Kevin Yiu Chung-kong (Senior IT Assistant), Systems  
Xenia Yeung Wing-ching (Library Assistant), Western & E-resources Cataloguing  
Ronda Yuen Sze-wai (Library Assistant), Reference

**Farewell**
Kammy Chan Kit-yee (Library Assistant), Special Collections  
Chan Sin-yan (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Chan Wai-yip (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Fiona Chan Yin-wah (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Cheung Yuen-man (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Ivan Chu Ka-wai (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Chu Wing-yan (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Fung Chui-lin (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Hung Kai-chung (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Kwan Wing-man (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Kwok King-to (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Ann Kwok Wai-wo (Library Assistant III), Medical Library  
Harry Lam Ho-kin (Junior Library Assistant), Public Relations and Development  
Ocean Li Suet-ching (Library Assistant), Western & E-resources Cataloguing  
Lorraine Lok Lan-kwai (Assistant Librarian I), AV Collection  
Lilian Lucke-lam (Library Assistant II), Medical Library  
Alexander John Nightingale (Junior Library Assistant), Systems  
William Tam Lai-lim (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Wan Suet-ying (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Wong Chee-bor (Library Assistant III), Music Library  
Josa Wong Yun-kuen (Library Assistant III), Acquisitions  
Alexander Yim Kai-yan (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services  
Heidi Yuen Hoi-ki (Junior Library Assistant), Access Services

**Appointment Transfers to Fixed-term**
Fanny Ip Kit-yu (Library Assistant), Western & E-resources Cataloguing  
Gwendoline Yim Ho-yan (Library Assistant), CJK Cataloguing  
Jack Lo Chun-yue (IT Technician), Systems  
Xenia Yeung Wing-ching (Library Assistant), AV Collection
Did You Know?
The AV Collection was significantly enriched with DVDs of films nominated for the Oscar and HK Film Awards. The effort was accompanied with promotional webpages, posters and roller images on the HKUL homepage. Television programs currently in DVD format are being converted to digital format and put on the e-Video platform.

The recruitment of 2 faculty librarian positions for the Faculty of Social Sciences and Business & Economics has strengthened communication and enabled the Libraries to better support the learning, teaching and research needs of the respective faculties. We have altogether 10 subject librarians serving the ten faculties.

Migration from print to e-books at HKUL is accelerating. The e-book expenditure has quadrupled in 2008/09, totaling HK$5,426,685.

Through working with the Shared Electronic Resources Fund Advisory Committee in committing to a long-term e-only goal, the Libraries successfully realized savings of HK$4.5 million for new resource purchases in 2008/09.

Reference introduced a new Text a Librarian Service that enables HKUL users to send questions to and receive answers from reference librarians by using the text message feature of their mobile phones.

Twitter and Plurk accounts named “Nanosearch_HKUL” have been developed to disseminate reference news or useful search hints. These micro-blogging tools have been integrated into Facebook and a number of Reference web pages.

During an exercise to reduce print duplicates, the Education Library attained total savings of over HK$120,345, exceeding the target amount recommended.

The Law Library is developing its collections in the new areas of law and literature, arbitration and dispute resolution, and core texts for the new JD program.

The Dental library conducted a review exercise on its entire reference collection.

The Medical Library reviewed its serials collection and conducted a de-duplication exercise, reducing 234 print duplicates with over HK$3.2 million savings for new resources.

The size of the Hong Kong Collection recorded an impressive growth of 4,714 volumes (6%) in monographs and 637 new titles (5.5%) for periodicals.

The old office of the Technical Services on the 2/F of the Main Library was renovated to an open access compact facility, providing an additional 10,940 linear metres of shelving space that can help to accommodate the collection growth in Main Library for three years. Around 200,000 volumes of bound and current journals were relegated to this facility. At the same time, 20,872 volumes of less frequently used bound journals were relegated to the Hing Wai Storage.

1.1 million barcodes on library books were converted to RFID tags and five RFID self-check stations were installed in August 2008. As of May 2009, 36% of circulation transactions were from self-check stations.

Reference and Cataloguing jointly implemented the Book Award Project. Lists of award-winning titles from Choice’s outstanding academic titles, the Man Booker Prize, the Neustadt International Prize for Literature, the Newman Prize for Chinese Literature and the Pulitzer Prize were compiled and catalogued to facilitate searching on the library catalogue.

III’s (Innovative Interfaces Inc.) Encore product was selected as the Libraries’ Web 2.0 catalogue. It was rolled out in August 2008 and has since received many compliments.

There are now 408 PCs for the public, which includes 20 laptops for loan purpose.

The opening hours of the Main Library were extended to 24 hours during the revision periods and assessment periods in December 2008 and April/May 2009. Users could access most of the public facilities in the Main Library with food and drink policy relaxed for certain areas.
A. How we spent our acquisitions dollars

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Books</td>
<td>21.70%</td>
<td>19.24%</td>
<td>-2.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Resources</td>
<td>56.74%</td>
<td>61.03%</td>
<td>+4.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journals</td>
<td>16.58%</td>
<td>6.79%</td>
<td>-9.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>4.98%</td>
<td>12.94%</td>
<td>+7.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. E-resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>E-journals (Subscriptions)</td>
<td>52,841</td>
<td>57,862</td>
<td>+5,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-journals (Titles)</td>
<td>35,756</td>
<td>39,902</td>
<td>+4,146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-databases</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>707</td>
<td>+68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E-books</td>
<td>1,573,054</td>
<td>1,895,309</td>
<td>+322,255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer files</td>
<td>49,397</td>
<td>50,842</td>
<td>+1,445</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C. Volumes in the Libraries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Library</td>
<td>1,277,982</td>
<td>1,312,541</td>
<td>+34,559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fung Ping Shan Library</td>
<td>879,641</td>
<td>908,878</td>
<td>+29,237</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical Library</td>
<td>206,593</td>
<td>214,460</td>
<td>+7,867</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law Library</td>
<td>114,652</td>
<td>121,410</td>
<td>+6,758</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education Library</td>
<td>59,340</td>
<td>60,161</td>
<td>+821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music Library</td>
<td>34,346</td>
<td>35,350</td>
<td>+1,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,645,696</td>
<td>2,729,901</td>
<td>+84,205</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

D. Staffing (Full time equivalent)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Professional Staff</td>
<td>34.5</td>
<td>33.5</td>
<td>-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support Staff</td>
<td>218.83</td>
<td>205.25</td>
<td>-14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## E. Number of Registered Users (including Circle of Friends)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HKU Staff</td>
<td>7,755</td>
<td>8,247</td>
<td>+492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKU Students</td>
<td>26,752</td>
<td>25,593</td>
<td>-1,159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>47,431</td>
<td>48,188</td>
<td>+757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPACE Staff</td>
<td>1,007</td>
<td>1,067</td>
<td>+60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPACE Students</td>
<td>13,256</td>
<td>12,781</td>
<td>-475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>6,475</td>
<td>6,525</td>
<td>+50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>102,676</td>
<td>102,401</td>
<td>-275</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## F. E-resources Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Access to library websites (hits)</td>
<td>196,888,091</td>
<td>180,670,470</td>
<td>-16,217,621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access to e-resources (times)</td>
<td>3,791,285</td>
<td>3,733,074</td>
<td>-58,211</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## G. Library Materials Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items checked out</td>
<td>1,096,302</td>
<td>1,203,136</td>
<td>+106,834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Manual loans</td>
<td>8,808</td>
<td>8,107</td>
<td>-701</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items read in-house</td>
<td>431,997</td>
<td>398,709</td>
<td>-33,288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,537,107</td>
<td>1,609,952</td>
<td>+72,845</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## H. Print Items Use (by check out)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HKU Staff</td>
<td>126,380</td>
<td>158,518</td>
<td>+32,138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HKU Students</td>
<td>708,759</td>
<td>768,212</td>
<td>+59,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alumni</td>
<td>152,173</td>
<td>184,549</td>
<td>+32,376</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPACE Staff</td>
<td>10,323</td>
<td>10,302</td>
<td>-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPACE Students</td>
<td>28,299</td>
<td>40,007</td>
<td>+11,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others</td>
<td>70,368</td>
<td>41,548</td>
<td>-28,820</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,096,302</td>
<td>1,203,136</td>
<td>+106,834</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## I. Interlibrary Loan Transactions with Other Libraries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Items Loaned</td>
<td>50,751</td>
<td>50,666</td>
<td>-85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Items Borrowed</td>
<td>37,187</td>
<td>42,267</td>
<td>+5,080</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>87,938</td>
<td>92,933</td>
<td>+4,995</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
“I am impressed by the new 24 hours policy during the examination period.”

“I would like to express my thankfulness and appreciation to all the resources and support provided by the HKUL…The workshops I attended are useful for my study and the consultant in my consultation service session is nice and helpful. All the services provided are specific and tailor-made and let learners learn in an effective and enjoyable way. Hope HKUL will keep on improving this wonderful and powerful learning place.”

“The library courses are very useful…”

“I really appreciate the way you push forward the EndNote program as a standard for bibliography management in HKU. Please keep up with your good work & I know you have been working hard on it.”

“I often use libraries’ facilities and circulation service. I am very satisfied with the libraries services which I feel are always very comprehensive.”

“Would like to commend the HKUL for launching the Facebook application.”

“In my experience, the HKU Main Lib so far is the best library I had been into. More power to the library staff and keep on the good work.”

“HKU Library has done so many great things lately. It is barely recognizable from the library it was several years ago.”
Notable Acquisitions
**Bankscope.**


*Online database <library.hku.hk/record=b4206902>*

Bankscope is a comprehensive database on public and private banks, containing information on 29,000 banks around the world, including over 13,000 US banks. It combines data drawn from Fitch Ratings and nine other authoritative sources, and provides access to 16 years of detailed accounts, both standardized and as reported, and ratios, ratings, ownership and risk reports. The database’s integral analysis software allows cross-comparison of banks and its Addin function supports the analysis of “live” data within third party spreadsheets and database programs.

**India, Raj and Empire.**

Marlborough, England : Adam Matthew Digital, [2008].

*Online database < library.hku.hk/record=b4209810>*

This database comprises collections of documents sourced from the National Library of Scotland, which has large and diverse holdings of South Asian manuscripts and materials. The database provides access to a rich array of documents, ranging from the papers of key East India Company representatives and colonial officials to records of daily life in Agra, Bombay, Lahore, and Madras, and will support research in all aspects of the history of South Asia, from the foundation of the East India Company in 1615 to the granting of independence for India and Pakistan in 1947.

**The Making of Modern Law. Legal Treatises 1800-1926.**

[Farmington Mills, MI] : Thomson Gale, 2004-

*Online database <library.hku.hk/record=b4198397>*

MoML is a unique digital collection of Anglo-American legal literature from the watershed period of legal development during the 19th and early 20th centuries. The database comprises almost 22,000 titles, encompassing a range of literature for research in United States and British legal history, including casebooks, local practice manuals, works for lay readers, letters, speeches and more. It brings together invaluable and hard to find materials which are held in print format only in incomplete collections of a limited number of disparate law libraries.

**Illumination Engineering.**


*Library catalogue < library.hku.hk/record=b4100492>*

This short course introduces the field of illumination engineering through four separate DVDs. Engineers, scientists, and managers can use this course as an introduction to the field of illumination engineering. Practicing illumination engineers can use it as reference or a source for new material in the field of illumination.
UpToDate.
Wellesley, Mass. : UpToDate.

Online database < library.hku.hk/record= b4097282>

UpToDate is an evidence based, peer reviewed information resource that aims to answer clinicians’ questions quickly and improve patient care. The UpToDate community includes a faculty of 3,600 leading physicians, peer reviewers, editors and over 275,000 users, contributing to topic reviews that cover more than 7,300 topics in 13 medical specialties and include a synthesis of the literature, the latest evidence, and specific recommendations for patient care.

中國基本古籍庫
北京市 : 北京愛知生數字化技術研究中心

Online database < library.hku.hk/record= b4205553 >

This Database of Chinese Classic Ancient Books marks another milestone in the publishing history of China since the launch of the electronic edition of “Wen yuan ge Si ku quan shu”. This database includes over 10,000 Chinese ancient classics from pre-Qin to Min-kuo period on all subjects of Chinese civilization. Each work includes one to two original editions for reference and can be searched in full text.
Our Donors

We obtained very significant in kind and monetary contributions from the following individuals and groups to help us better meet the needs of our users.
• Mr Chung Po Yang 鍾普洋 made a generous gift to the Libraries to develop a Personal Development Collection.

• Mrs Dorcas Hu Chau Miu Kwan 胡妙坤 (BA 1955) made a wonderful gift to her alma mater last year. On her 80th birthday, she encouraged her friends and relatives to make donations to HKU Libraries and the response was magnanimous.

• The Hung On-To Memorial Fund 孔安道紀念基金會 made a gift to the Hung On-To Memorial Library within the Special Collections. The gift has been used for the purchase of Hong Kong related materials which are indispensable for the study of Hong Kong.

• The Yu Chun Keung Charitable Trust Fund made a gift to the Medical Library to support the Library in meeting the research needs of the Faculty.

• The Libraries’ Circle of Friends raised more than HK$1,000,000.

• Various fundraising efforts, including Honour with Books and the Annual Alumni Appeal, with matching funds from the Stanley Ho Alumni Challenge, provided us with another HK$1,000,000 in support.

• The Libraries’ Used Book Sale made a total of HK$100,000. More importantly, thousands of books found eager readers and new homes.

• We made applications to the University Research Committee, and received HK$200,000 for a project to correct errors in the citations held in Web of Science and Scopus for HKU authors, and another HK$200,000 for improving the accessibility features in the HKU Scholars Hub.

• We secured matching grant funding of HK$1,500,000 for our AV/Media Collection Reformatting Project and another HK$1,200,000 for the Electronic Resources Academic Library Link (ERALL).
Besides monetary support, the Libraries also received tremendous support from donors worldwide, as well as from our own faculty members, in the form of various materials that serve to enrich our collections. Here are some of the larger gifts:

- Dr Ma Chor Kin (馬楚堅) donated 4,511 volumes of books and 4,191 periodical issues.

- Mr Hu Zhen (胡振) donated 40 cartons of books and materials.

- The Office of the Department of the People’s Government of Hunan Province (湖南省人民政府辦公室) donated 《湖湘文庫》in 180 volumes.

- The Chinese Cultural Industries Group (中華文化產業集團) donated one set of Contemporary China series (overseas edition) 《當代中國》叢書 [海外版]

- We also received 236 and 1,215 books respectively from family members of the late Professor Anthony Sweeting and Ms Rosina Tang (鄭鄧慧瑛).

- The Centre for Applied English Studies, HKU, donated a collection of their books.

- We received a couplet composed by Mr Yeung Sui Sang (楊瑞生), calligraphed by Mrs Helen Chung (鍾海倫), donated by Mr Chung Po Yang (鍾普洋). It conveys a message about the importance of books and education for intellectual cultivation:

香港重人才，大學仁風留史冊
圖書能醒世，館藏寶典輔英賢

As Hong Kong attaches great significance to education, this University has cherished in its records all acts of benevolence and excellence; and as books can help to awaken the world, our Libraries’ precious collections/dictionaries are of valuable assistance to all intellectual readers.
Diamond Donors

Dr Au Wing Hoi
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Po Chung
Dr Ho Lau Cheung
Ho Yuk Ling

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