

The 10th OAPS Certificate Awarding Ceremony

Welcoming Speech by Professor Christian WAGNER, Acting University Librarian

Guests, Colleagues, Young Scholars,

Thank you very much for coming, and clearly thank you to our young scholars and their mentors because you are the reason why we are here today.

As you've heard the OAPS programme is a chance for our young scholars to publish the results of their achievement during their studies, and we feel it is really wonderful for them to share. As you know, City University really put a lot of emphasis on the Discovery-enriched Curriculum. The opportunity for our students to make an original discovery during their study, and of course, our goal is not only to allow them to create the knowledge but also to curate it, cultivate it and to communicate it. And the OAPS papers are one way to communicate that knowledge and so we are very happy that this is happening and you've already seen from Anna's thorough presentation that this is happening at an ever growing scale and with increasing impact.

But CityU, as you know, is a hungry university and we want more. So, in fact, as we are sitting here, we've already taken our next step. Our plan is to take the OAPS to the next level by looking for the best of the best, the most outstanding of the outstanding paper and seek way to bring it into peer review publications. So, in the meantime, already in the last few months, the Library has been actually working hard to look for potential journal outlet, other outlets for these. Some of you who are mentors have already seen, we asked you to mark who are the ones, which are the papers that you see have potential to go further and we already are now taking the next step. We want to invite a selection of panel to help with identifying these publications and then help our young scholars. So I alert you, we may come back to you and say "do you want to take the next step?" and then help you with professional editing with other support and that's of course, what our library colleagues can bring to the table, in addition to your mentors to get you to the next level. Some of you may not know, there are a number of outstanding publications for undergraduate scholars, and of course, we also looking further to other publications. As I've mentioned, we have taken some steps. We will ask you further and of course, we want you to start planning for the next year.

So, to our student scholars, invite your fellow students, encourage them to take part in this effort and to our heads of department, deans, faculty mentors, please also look for ways to encourage the students and to help with this because we believe that, by going further, by taking it to the next step, we can really amplify the impact that we have. It would be wonderful for the university and of course, for these young scholars who may use this as a stepping stone, for example, to engage in research postgraduate studies and we all know how difficult it is today, and we all know how important it is to have published. And with that, I'd stop. You know what our challenge is and I'm sure you'd find ways to achieve it and with that, thank you very much.