

Library Newsletter



<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/about/newsletter/>

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A message from Mr John Dockerill, Vice-President for Planning and Information Services and Acting Librarian

Multi-task counter next

As most of you must be aware the University embarked on some major renovations during the summer break. One of them was to provide the new single Library entrance right behind the Academic Building entrance from Festival Walk. The new



entrance is in a more prominent location where users can access the Library more easily.

Positions reviewed

The work offered the opportunity to review the positions of the service counters, which are now dotted in different parts of the Library. We believe that it will be in users' best interest to create a single multi-task counter to provide the various kinds of counter services. The new counter, adjacent to the new entrance, is expected to be in full operation by the start of Semester B. Reserve materials and media resources will also be moved near to the new counter during the semester break in December and early January 2003 to minimize disruption to users.

The single entrance and the multi-task counter will be the major part of Phase 1 of the Library renovation project. As a pilot for our plan to ensure that both individual and group study facilities are available within the Library, some of the

Continued on [page 2](#)

Contents

New electronic resources

[page 2](#)

Circulation gets technology upgrade

[page 3](#)

New notebook computers available

[page 3](#)

Skills training programme

[page 4](#)

E-resources on trial

<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/eres/trial/list.htm>

TOC Premier provides access to the latest table of contents information for **over 23,000 journals**. Business, scientific, technical, medical and general interest journals are included in the database, which is updated daily.

Expanded Academic ASAP provides access to scholarly journals, magazines and newspapers (many with full text and images), covering the arts, humanities, social sciences, science and technology.

Continued from [page 1](#)

small, dimly lighted and poorly ventilated carrels will be merged into larger group study/discussion rooms. We will also improve the newspaper and magazine reading areas and the display of new books.



Knowledge environment

Our major goal in the Library renovation project is to strengthen the role of Library as a centre for intellectual life, providing a technologically advanced and comfortable environment conducive to learning and exploration of knowledge through a variety of print and digital formats. A clever usage of space is of particular importance in this regard. Thus in subsequent phases of the project, we aim to upgrade study space, multimedia workstations and seating.

The renovations will continue for some months. We will keep you updated on their progress. Although we will try to schedule the noisy work at night and during semester breaks, there will inevitably be some disruption and inconvenience. We hope that you appreciate that these renovation works will ultimately provide a much better learning environment.

Millennium era begins in circulation

The Library will switch to the INNOPAC Millennium Circulation module in October 2002. The switch will not affect users directly. But users will reap benefits in the form of improved service.

Single-window access

The new Java-based module provides web-based graphic interface and single-window access to all patron-related transactions. From one Check Out screen, circulation staff can handle checkouts, check-ins, renewals and fines. Other patron-related information, such as holding information for requested and previously checked out items, can be displayed or updated in the same active window.

Like the previous character-based module, the Millennium module will also be used to create and update item, bibliographic and course records. Holds,

renewals, recalls, fines and reserves are fully supported. Additional features that could be used in the future include self-checkout and showing the borrower's picture during checkout.

The Circulation module is the first INNOPAC Millennium product to be adopted by the Library. Products for Acquisitions, Cataloguing and Serials are under testing. By closely following technological developments in the online catalogue system, the Library aims to ensure the quality of its service to users.

Speedy switch-over

Preparations for the switch to the Millennium Circulation module began in September. Training were provided for counter staff. The switch-over was scheduled to start with a few workstations and be completed within two weeks.

New notebook computers available for loan

The Media Resources Counter in the Library has 50 new notebook computers to lend to full-time and part-time CityU students. The computers provide easy and convenient access to the Library's electronic resources via the wireless LAN anywhere within the network's coverage area in the Library. The Counter also lends wireless LAN cards to students who have their own notebook computers. The cards enable compatible computers to access the wireless LAN.

Latest hardware and software

The new Dell Latitude V740 notebook computers have the following configuration: P4 1.6 GHZ, 256 MB RAM, 30 GB hard disk, DVD drive. Installed software includes Microsoft Office XP.

The computers and wireless LAN cards are available on a first-come-first-served basis and must not be taken out of the Library. They must be returned within the same day at least 30 minutes before the Media Resources Counter closes. Please contact the Counter for further details.

Skills training programme

A new programme of Library and Information Skills training for undergraduates aims to improve the ability of students to make effective use of the Library. Six short courses have been designed to meet the needs of students in different faculties/schools:

1. Introduction to Library Resources for Your Studies
2. Using the Library Catalogue to Find Library Resources
3. Introduction to Databases, E-Journals and E-Books
- 4a. Finding Articles on Business Using Electronic Databases and Journals
- 4b. Finding Articles on Humanities and Social Sciences Using Electronic Databases and Journals
- 4c. Finding Articles on Science and Engineering Using Electronic Databases and Journals
5. Finding News Articles Using Electronic Databases
6. Finding Free Resources on the World Wide Web

For details and online registration visit <http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/instruct/course/ug/index.htm>. For enquiries, call 2788-8846 or write lbinf@cityu.edu.hk.

New e-resources

<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/new.htm>



Oxford Reference Online brings about 100 language and subject dictionaries and reference works published by Oxford University Press into a single cross-searchable resource. It covers a wide range of subjects including mythology, history, language, the arts, sciences and business.



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