

# Library Newsletter



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

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## Message from the Librarian

When I reported duty on 1 August this year, I already know I am joining a young and dynamic University advancing to a leadership position in the Asia Pacific region, as I have been an acquaintance of Run Run Shaw Library for some time and can tell you some facts about it.



Prof. Steve Ching

With only about 10,000 square metres, our Library houses a physical collection of over 800,000 volumes of monographs and periodicals. Over the years, it has expanded electronically and now provides access to over 500 databases and 20,000 e-journals, moreover, many library functions can now be handled online. The Library also has a strong collection in Law and houses two special collections – the English Law Special Collection and the Chinese Legal History Special Collection. However, after my arrival, I was surprised to find out how popular our Library is. Demands for our services are so great that we are open from 8:30 in the morning to 11:00 in the evening during normal term time and to 1:00 am during peak periods, and our daily entries average to over 8,000 this semester. This is the highest record amongst the 8 UGC-funded libraries in Hong Kong. When many libraries in other parts of the world, or even some of our sister libraries in Hong Kong are recording declining patronage, our users are voting with their feet as to how much they like the services provided by our Library!

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Of course we are proud of our Library, thus we must endeavour to do more as the Library is charged with the important task of providing academic support for teaching and learning, and research activities of the University. Thus in this Issue 8 of the Library Newsletter, I would like to recap on our work over the past few months and share with you some pertinent new tasks we are taking on this year.

To assist the University in providing adequate classrooms to cope with the increased student intake this academic year, the Library reverted back the self-study area to central control and 4 new classrooms were constructed (see story on [page 3](#)). This, coupled with the installation of compact shelving in the Law Section resulted in a complete relocation of our books ([page 3](#)) for better space and shelves utilization; both of these tasks were completed during the summer break. On the digital front, our online catalogue is now Unicode compliant ([page 6](#)), and we implemented the SFX citation linker to further facilitate article linking ([page 6](#)). In terms of services, we have extended our opening hours from 1 November to 18 December. During this period, the closing hour of the Library is 1:00 am instead of 11:00 pm in order to provide more space and facilities for our enlarged student body (on [page 3](#)). For our alumni, we now offer a range of services from access only to electronic resources for their choice (on [page 4](#)). To celebrate the University's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Library is holding a CityU Memorabilia Exhibition showcasing the University's developments and achievements in the past 20 years (story on [page 4](#)). At the end of November, for the first time in its history, the Library played host to the Hong Kong Innovative Users Group Meeting (story on [page 6](#)). This was the 5<sup>th</sup> of such meeting held in Hong Kong and over 280 participants including visitors from US, Mainland, Japan and Taiwan joined the two-day conference.

In terms of important tasks for this academic year, maintaining the quality of our collection during this time of funding reduction is our priority. We shall deploy a combination of tactics including collective purchase, collaboration on exchanges and collection of the University's self-produced materials to upkeep the high standard of our Library collection. To better manage and house our growing collection and provide an appropriate environment within the Library for academic pursuits, we are planning on some major space rearrangement as well as employing technological solutions including self-check machines and RFID. With the University embarking on the major project of enterprise-wide deployment of a single e-learning platform, Blackboard 6, the Library will play a dual role as course provider by putting some of our library and information skills courses online as well as the role of a content manager by organizing institutional and library contents appropriately in support of education and research activities of the University.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this message, the Library is well regarded by its users and has supported the University well over the years. As the Librarian, I will ensure that our Library will continue to be the centre for academic activities providing the ambience and facilities for intellectual exchange within the University. Your comments and suggestions to improve the services of the Library are always welcome.

## Extended Library Opening Hours Prior to and During Revision and Examination Periods

Understanding the need of students for study space to prepare for their examinations, the Library is extending its opening hours till 1:00 am during the period from 1 November to 18 December 2004. Please refer to the Library News page (<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/about/news.htm#hrs>) for details.

From 19 December 2004 onwards, special opening hours for Semester Break will apply, please watch out for Library announcement.

## Conversion of Self Study Area to Permanent Classrooms

To cope with a larger student population in an increasingly self-financed environment and imminent need for classrooms on campus, the Self-Study Area was returned to the University for conversion into permanent classrooms in response to the request from the Secretary of the Accommodation Committee in March 2004. This represents a net loss of some 260 seating within the Library area. However, during revision and examination periods, these classrooms will be opened up again as the Library Self Study Area for students to carry out their private studies. Access to these classrooms will then be via the Library only.

## Book Relocation Exercise

Despite the proliferation of electronic resources throughout the last decade, the vast majority of the academic knowledge and information are still preserved in paper format. The expanding collection demands more shelving space. While the Offsite Storage is one of the solutions, it accommodates seldom-used books only. Electronic compact shelves which help accommodate more books on site were therefore installed in the Law Section of the Library.

The additional shelving space supplied by these newly installed electronic compact shelves in the Law Section started off a major book relocation exercise within the Library in February 2004 and it lasted till August 2004, involving over 500,000 volumes of books. After the exercise, it was estimated that the additional shelving space would allow room for collection expansion for two to three years.



## CityU Memorabilia Exhibition

In celebrating the 20th anniversary of the University, an exhibition on CityU memorabilia is now on display in the Library Lobby through December 2004.

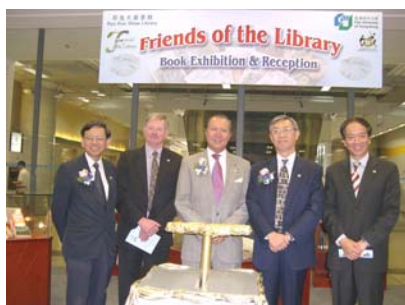
An Opening Ceremony was held on 25 October at the Library Lobby and we were honoured to have Professor H K Chang, the President, Professor Steve Ching, the Librarian, Mr Kevin Chan, President of Student Union, Mr Andrew Fan, Former Council Chairman of Student Union (1987) and Ms Grace Ho, our longest serving staff in the Library to officiate the Opening Ceremony.



The CityU Memorabilia Exhibition features memorable and unique objects and documents related to history of the University from 1984 to 2004. You are welcome to visit the Exhibition.

## Friends of the Library Book Exhibition and Reception

With endorsement from the Committee on Information Services and Technology, the Library introduced the Friends of the Library as an outreach initiative. The Friends of the Library offers different types of membership for interested parties to join. Through the Friends of the Library, we hope to raise funds for the purchase and conservation of significant library collections, secure book donations by gift or bequest, and provide opportunities for individuals to be kept informed about, and get acquainted with, the Library's growth and express their own interests. Different Library tickets are issued to the various categories of members so that they can come to use the Library and to borrow books.



A previous member of the University Council, Mr Roderick Woo, who has made substantial donation of books to the Library, officiated at the Friends of the Library Book Exhibition and Reception in June 2004.

## New Library Services to CityU Alumni

To further foster the bonding between our alumni and the alma mater, the Library enhanced its services to alumni. A new package of Alumni Library Services was introduced on 1 June, 2004. It provides more service options for alumni to choose from, ranging from reader and borrowing privileges to remote access to selected electronic resources. Within just one month after the launch of the new package, the Library had received some 1,000 applications. The services are indeed welcomed by our fellow alumni.

For more information about the Alumni Library Services, please visit the Library web page: <http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/service/alumni/index.htm>

## 數位化《金文詁林》及《金文詁林附錄》項目

爲了充實館藏有關金文資料的典籍，圖書館在 2003 年與中文大學出版社達成協議，把金文研究的兩本重要工具書《金文詁林》及《金文詁林附錄》數位化。整個計劃於去年 12 月開始，並在今年 3 月底完成，電子版已送交中大出版社；圖書館除可保留此資料電子版外，亦獲得中文大學出版社贈送已絕版多時的《金文詁林》平裝本一套，讀者可於參考書部查閱（索書號爲 [PL2448.J5635 1974](#)）。

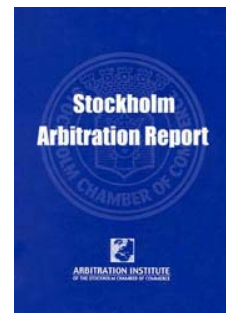


《金文詁林》由已故語言學家周法高教授主編，以容庚增訂三版《金文編》[1959] 爲據，搜集各家考釋成果後匯編而成的專著，全書共十四卷，附索引一冊，共十六冊，頁數達九千七百餘頁。《金文詁林附錄》由周法高、李孝定及張日昇三位語言文字學者編著，分上下卷及索引，連卷端目錄，共二千九百餘頁。

## New e-Resources

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

The web-based resource Stockholm Arbitration Report is available in ArbitrationLaw Online. The Stockholm Arbitration Report is an international arbitration publication that includes articles on topical issues in international arbitration and extracts from arbitral awards and court decisions, and it provides information and insight into the world of international arbitration as practiced not only in Sweden, but world-wide.



**apabi** 數位資源平臺

The Library has purchased around 1,450 titles of Chinese Apabi eBook on a wide range of subjects. The ebook collection can be accessed via the Library Catalogue or Electronic Books index page (<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/eres/ebook/index.htm>) on the Library web site.



## Library Hosted 5<sup>th</sup> HKIUG Annual Meeting

The Library hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Hong Kong Innovative Users Group (HKIUG) Meeting organized by the Hong Kong Innovative Users Group at Wei Hing Theatre from 30 November to 1 December 2004.



This year we had had overwhelming responses from over 280 participants. In addition to local participants from 15 member institutes of the HKIUG which include all 8 UGC-funded University Libraries, other local higher education institution libraries, government and special libraries, as well as the University of Macau library, there were also visitors from the Mainland, Taiwan, Japan and for the first time from the United States. Presentations included those from the library system vendor, Innovative Interfaces Inc., member libraries of the Users Group as well as visitors from overseas. This annual meeting provided great opportunities for member libraries to promote knowledge sharing, exchange ideas and views on common concerns and deliberate on future direction of library automation and digital libraries.

Detailed information can be found at the HKIUG website:  
<http://hkiug.ln.edu.hk/meetings/am2004/>.

## Catalogue Now Unicode Compliant

Before 27 October 2004, the CityU Library Catalogue used Big5 interface for inputting and displaying Chinese characters. However, the Big5 character set is relatively small and does not include simplified Chinese characters and most Japanese and Korean characters. Now the CityU Catalogue is Unicode Compliant. This means that it can now fully support simplified and traditional Chinese, Japanese and Korean (CJK) text. Library users can therefore see the correct display of CJK text in our Catalogue. The Library Catalogue is also set to automatically apply the Unicode (UTF-8) encoding.

## SFX Citation Linker Makes Article Linking Easy

A new tool, powered by SFX, for quickly locating online full-text articles when you already have the complete citations of the desired articles in hand -- the Citation Linker -- is now available on the Library web site. After you have submitted the citation information of an article, the Citation Linker will check against the Library's holdings of e-journals and provide you link(s) to the article if full text is available.

The tool can be accessed via the [Electronic Resources](#) web page.