

Welcome to the Conference

by

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As the hosting institution, may I, on behalf of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, welcome you all to the Conference today. The theme of the Conference is “Emerging Paradigms for Academic Library E-Book Acquisition and Use: Trends, Challenges and Opportunities”. It is an initiative of the Electronic Resources Academic Library Link (ERALL) consortium which is formed by the eight members of the Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee, and aims to exchange experiences and best practices in strategic collection development, acquisitions, promotion and use of E-books.

Today, we will have 18 groups of participants making presentations on four different themes of topics, namely: Users and the Print to E-book Continuum; Collection Development; Consortial Purchasing; and, E-book Publishing and Trends. The presenters include 13 academic institutions in Hong Kong, Mainland China, Taiwan, Macau and South Korea, as well as four international E-book publishers and vendors. These presentations include eight papers from the eight UGC libraries, sharing their experiences and practices in acquisition and user education of E-books. In addition, it is our great honor to have Mr. Tom Sanville, the Executive Director of OhioLINK, and Mr. Andrew Wells, the President of the Council of Australian University Librarians (CAUL) and the University Librarian of The University of New South Wales as our keynote speakers. Mr. Sanville will share with us how they have applied techniques learnt from electronic journal licenses to large scale, consortium-level electronic book licenses in the U.S.A., while Mr. Wells will speak on the e-book development and the consortial activities for licensing of E-books in Australia. As our speakers and presenters are experienced consortium leaders from around the world, I am convinced that all of you will find today’s conference beneficial and rewarding through this exchange of ideas and experiences.

May I also take this opportunity to welcome twelve E-book vendors and publishers in sharing their industry developments and displaying their products and services with our conference participants: they are Alexander Street Press, Beijing Founder Apabi Technology Ltd., ebrary, EBSCO, Emerald Group Publishing, iGroup, John Wiley & Sons and Wiley-Blackwell, MyiLibrary, Oxford University Press, Proquest, Springer, and Taylor & Francis eBookstore.

Today, we are particularly happy that this international conference not only has local Hong Kong attendants, but also participants who have travelled from Australia, China, Macau, Singapore, South Korea, Philippines, Taiwan, U.S. and U.K. to be here with us today, a total of 160 delegates in all. May I again welcome you here, and wish you all a fruitful conference at CUHK. Thank you.