Pinyin conversion completed

Pinyin has finally replaced the old Wade-Giles system as the authoritative romanization of Chinese names in the Library. If you look for Mao Tse-tung in the Library catalogue, you will now be directed to see Mao Zedong.

Formerly the Library used a dual system to romanize Chinese characters in the catalogue. Pinyin was used for descriptive elements such as the title and details of responsibility and publication. Wade-Giles was used for Chinese names in the author and subject fields. Users who searched for the Pinyin form of a name were redirected to the Wade-Giles form.

**International standard**
The Library understood the importance of Pinyin back in 1984 when we catalogued our first Chinese titles. But we could not adopt Pinyin throughout the catalogue because all names (both Western and non-Western) had to follow the authority of the United States Library of Congress, which used Wade-Giles.

In 1997 the Library of Congress announced plans to switch to the Pinyin system by the year 2000. The shift meant not only that Pinyin could be used throughout our catalogue, but also that almost all of our authoritative name records and names in bibliographical records had to be converted. The exceptions were personal name headings on the Library of Congress Exclusion List.

**Task Force**
A Pinyin Conversion Task Force consisting of four staff from the Cataloguing Section of the Library was set up in October 2000 to plan and manage the project. Staff from the Enterprise Solutions Unit helped with the computer programs.

The conversion was carried out in two phases. A total of

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68,441 authoritative name records were converted in Phase 1, completed in December 2001. The name headings of 96,224 bibliographical records were converted in Phase 2, completed in April 2002. All name headings that were not converted by the computer program were then manually reviewed.

Search tips
If you use Pinyin for a search, remember to enter multi-character surnames, given names or geographic names as one word. For example:

- 欧阳修  search for Ouyang Xiu  not Ou Yang Xiu
- 周恩来  search for Zhou Enlai  not Zhou En Lai
- 广州  search for Guangzhou  not Guang Zhou

Unfortunately, for descriptive elements other than names, multi-character words do not appear as one word in Pinyin, as they normally would. This is because of a Library of Congress rule aimed at ensuring a single international standard for library records.

For more details about the Pinyin Conversion Project, please contact Ms Lilian Chan (lblchan@cityu.edu.hk; tel: 2194-2260). For the Library of Congress romanization guidelines, visit http://lcweb.loc.gov/catdir/cpso/romanization/chinese.pdf.
Pipeline highlights Library resources

The recently launched pilot version of the Campus Pipeline – CityU e-Portal will provide students with a gateway to the University’s electronic services starting in the new academic year.

The pilot version, accessible from the CityU homepage, provides single sign-on access to the Administrative Information Management System (AIMS) and the web teaching platform WebCT.

**Standard presentation**
The aim is to standardize information presentation with a consistent web-based front-end using data from a variety of back-end sources. The Library will play an important part by providing information and resources in a more personalized or targeted format to users. Resources such as electronic journals and databases, course reserves and examination papers have been grouped, organized and highlighted for students according to their majors.

Resources to facilitate web-based teaching and guides to research have been featured for the attention of staff. The usual links to the online catalogue and related Library facilities occupy dominant positions in the Pipeline, ensuring that access to Library resources via the portal is straightforward.

More features will be added as the Pipeline develops and we become more familiar with its use. Please send comments, suggestions and queries to lb@plink.cityu.edu.hk.

**Databases upgraded to ISI Web of Knowledge**
The Library-subscribed databases *Web of Science* and *Journal Citation Reports (JCR)* are now available via ISI *Web of Knowledge*, a dynamic and fully integrated platform.

New features in the new version of *Web of Science* include Search History, Combine Searches and Advanced Search.

**Library Renovation Underway**
You may be aware that the Library is undergoing renovation to provide you a more conducive environment for learning. While we are trying our best to minimize any disturbance, it is inevitable that there may be some noise and dust around, for which we apologize and hope you can bear with us.
Guide to Legal Materials site launched

A Guide to Legal Materials website, a joint project of the Library and the School of Law, has been developed for students of the School of Law. The site will be introduced to Year One LLB students in the core course Legal System and Method in Semester A.

Labour-intensive

“Learning how to use a law library and conduct basic legal research takes time and energy from students, librarians and teachers. It is very labour-intensive as it usually involves small group teaching at the physical site of the Library,” said Mrs Madeleine Lee, the Head of the Law Section of the Library and author of the materials on the website.

"We have created the site with interesting graphics, cartoons and many useful links to relevant websites to make it more fun to use. The site is designed for use by any student who wants to learn about Hong Kong, UK or PRC law. We believe it will very much enhance our students' learning experience in using the law library and conducting basic legal research.”

Team effort

The site was developed by teaching staff and students from the School of Law, and staff from the Library and Enterprise Solutions Unit, with the support of a grant to the School of Law from the Quality Enhancement Fund.

Some 40 guests attended the launch of the site, held in the School of Law on 11 June. Guests included Professor Mike McConville, the Dean of the School of Law, Mr John Dockerill, the Acting Librarian and Vice-President of Planning and Information Services, teaching staff and students from the School of Law, staff from the Library and Enterprise Solutions Unit, and others interested in web instruction.

New e-resources expand capacity

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

| China Journal Database (CJD) is a web-based database containing full text articles from over 5,000 Chinese and English periodicals published in China. It covers all areas of humanities, social sciences, science and technology. | JSTOR – Business Collection is a multi-disciplinary e-journal collection of 46 titles on subjects such as economics and finance, management, marketing, accountancy and operation research. This collection serves as a very useful tool for research as it provides complete archives of core scholarly journals, starting from the first issues. Its cross searching capability opens up new possibilities for scholarship and research. |