Professor C C Cheng, Chair Professor of Linguistics and Chinese, assumed the post of Acting Librarian on 1 December 2002.

Message from Acting Librarian

In the next few months I will actively find opportunities to listen to you regarding the operation of the Library. As this is the first newsletter in 2003, I would like to recap our work and share with you some of the plans we have for the Library in the year to come.

Ambiance Project
The Ambiance project of the University is progressing well. The effect on the Library has been quite profound and we, in turn, have to plan and schedule our renovation work in line with the Ambiance project. You may have noticed that for the past six months or so, the Library has been losing rather than gaining space, as various sections were boarded up for renovation. We also have to relocate quite a lot of our materials (story on page 6) to better align with the logistics of the new single entrance and to make room for the new campus bookshop. Still, we managed to remodel some of our old study carrels into more inviting single and group study rooms (story on page 4).

Regain Space
When the old escalator in front of the Library is completely removed and the new bookshop opens, we hope to regain some study space for students, stack space for library materials and office space for our staff. Together with the new space which has become available on the fourth floor, there will be more room for students and staff to pursue academic as well as leisure activities, and the ambiance of the entire campus will be much improved and refreshed.

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New e-Resources

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

Academic Search Premier is a multi-disciplinary full text database of more than 3,600 scholarly publications, including more than 2,700 peer-reviewed publications. It provides abstract and PDF backfiles and expanded indexing for more than 100 top scholarly academic journals, dating back as far as 1965.

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Digital Front
Apart from the physical ambiance of the Library, you may also be aware of subtle changes on the digital front. With WebPac available to patrons for easy access to the Library online system, we have further enhanced the Catalogue by displaying the material types (story on page 3). For our back offices, the Millennium suite has been installed for Circulation. Implementation of the modules for Serials, Acquisitions and Cataloguing will follow in phases.

Innovations
Last semester, we implemented ILLiad, a new system for submitting and processing interlibrary loan requests (story on page 5). To ensure that performance of the Library system stays optimal, we retired the six-year-old Alpha machine and migrated the entire system onto a more powerful SUN server during the recent semester break. With our e-resources and well developed web pages, the Library is the major content provider for the CityU e-portal (story on page 7). Further plans include the adoption of a suite of meta-search and resource-linking software to facilitate searches and cross-linking among the many electronic databases and journal sites; and a feasibility study of a system to consolidate and distribute multi-media materials.

Fostering Links
I hope you will agree with me that our Library is well regarded by our patrons. We also have many supporters and throughout the years have received many donations of materials and others kinds. To strengthen these links and good relationships, receptions and exhibitions will be organized in the coming months to highlight various donations and acknowledge our kind donors. We wish to start with a small friends and supporters circle and extend and develop it into a full “Friends of the Library” scheme. As we are new at this, your valuable advice and support will be very much appreciated.

I take this opportunity to wish you a happy and successful Year of the Goat!

C C Cheng
Exhibit: Book Donation from Professor Donald Stone

Thanks to a book donation from Professor Donald Stone, Professor of English at Queens College and the Graduate Centre, City University of New York, the Library has added to its collection 100 books on art. The donation includes works about master artists such as Michelangelo and Van Gogh and publications by renowned art galleries and museums around the world.

Western Art
The donation will enrich the Library’s collection in the area of Western art. Professor Zhang Longxi, Director of the Centre for Cross-Cultural Studies and Chair Professor of the Department of Chinese, Translation and Linguistics, officiated at the opening of the exhibition on 12 December 2002. It is through Professor Zhang’s acquaintance with Professor Stone that our Library is honoured with this donation.

Catalogue Displays Type of Material

The Catalogue has been enhanced to enable users to view the types of materials (or medium) such as e-journal, thesis or videocassette, in the search results lists. Users can also limit their search to a specific “Material Type”.

The “Medium” information is based on the data in the MAT TYPE field in the bibliographic record. To cater for the display of “medium” in the catalogue, several new MAT TYPE codes were added and some of the old codes were redefined. Cataloguing staff scanned the entire bibliographical database for records that required recoding of the MAT TYPE field. As a result of this exercise, about 40,000 bibliographical records were recoded.
Two Rooms Ready for Group Work

Two group study/discussion rooms located beside the Circulation Counter have been renovated to provide a more conducive environment for research and study. The rooms accommodate four and eight users; a minimum of two and four users are required respectively.

The rooms have improved lighting and ventilation, and are covered by the wireless LAN. Each has an LCD projector, a screen and a white board.

Booking Information
CityU students, academic/administrative equivalent staff and research staff are welcome to use the rooms. They are available Monday-Friday 9:30-21:30, Saturday 9:30-17:30, and Sunday 13:30-17:30.

To make a reservation or an advanced booking of up to a week, please go to the Circulation Counter. For further details, please enquire at the Circulation Counter or visit http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/about/facility/gpstudy.htm.

No to Illegal Photocopying!

Last semester we received a letter from the Hong Kong Customs and Excise Department informing us that two books belonging to the CityU Library were seized during a raid against book pirating at photocopying shops. After checking our records, we found that one book was on loan to a CityU graduate, while the other was on interlibrary loan to a HKU student. Both borrowers were fined heavily with the replacement cost of the book, overdue fines and processing charges.

Serious Offence
Illegal photocopying is a serious offence and we would like to take this opportunity to remind our users of their obligations to observe the Copyright Ordinance when using the library materials. In case of any doubt, please check Section 38, Chapter 528, on the use of copyrighted materials for research and private studies. We would like to remind you that you are fully responsible for any legal consequence concerning copyright that may arise. Should you have queries, please ask at the Information Counter of the Library.
Here Comes ILLiad – the New Interlibrary Loan System

Eligible interlibrary loan users can now submit their requests through ILLiad (Interlibrary Loan Internet Access Database), which was launched in September 2002.

ILLiad is a turnkey system distributed by OCLC, a global library cooperative. The Baptist University Library, the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library and the Hong Kong University Libraries also launched ILLiad in September.

Users Empowered
ILLiad is sophisticated, yet user-friendly. With its versatility, ILLiad empowers interlibrary loan users to:
- submit requests online
- track the progress of submitted requests
- edit or cancel previously submitted requests
- make book renewal requests online
- receive articles electronically
- keep account of personal interlibrary loan transaction history

Easy Access
A link to ILLiad is available on the Interlibrary Loan Services Home Page, which is accessible in the following ways:
- CityU e-Portal > My Courses > Interlibrary Loan Services – ILLiad
- Library Home Page > Services > Interlibrary Loan Services
- Direct URL: http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/service/ill/

First-time Registration
On the ILLiad Login page, eligible users need to key in their CityU ID numbers and their Library System PINs. Final year degree students cannot submit their requests through ILLiad because we require written endorsement on the requests from your supervisors. First-time ILLiad users must register to confirm their contact information and item delivery option. No registration is required on return visits.

Let’s Go ILLiad
ILLiad streamlines interlibrary loan operation and shortens the turnaround time. Users enjoy more convenience and flexibility in submitting and tracking their requests. So, why hesitate, let’s go ILLiad!
Semi-closed Collection Relocated During Break

To better utilize our space and to prepare for coming renovation work, the Library relocated the Semi-closed Collection during the semester break.

The area where circulation books classed as HD to HV previously resided has been converted into an enclosed area to hold the Semi-closed Collection. The aim of the move is to place the Semi-closed Collection adjacent to the future Multi-task Counter, which will be the check-in-and-out point for various kinds of library materials.

Temporary Counter
As the Multi-task Counter is still under construction, a temporary counter has been set up in the newly enclosed area to serve those who wish to use or borrow materials in the Semi-closed Collection. Other closed access materials should also be checked out from this temporary counter.

To provide more flexibility and convenience to the users, some closed access materials, such as CityU dissertations, CityU examination papers, standards and professional examination papers, are being converted into semi-closed materials, to be housed in the newly enclosed area.

Other moves
Circulation books of the HD to HV classes have been moved to book stacks in the blue and yellow zones of the Library. Other library materials that have been relocated include Indexes, Over-sized Reference, Hong Kong Government Documents and Company Reports. Indexes now reside in the electronic compact shelves in the Serials Section, while the others have been incorporated into the Reference Collection.

Need a map?
Users encountering difficulties in locating library materials are welcome to seek help from staff at the Information Counter or the Circulation Counter of the Library. For a map, please refer to the Library Floor Plan on page 8.
CityU e-Portal – The Integrated Learning Environment

Version 1 of CityU e-Portal was released last August in time for the start of academic year 2002-2003. All new students who entered the University in September 2002 were introduced to the portal for their main access to electronic communications in CityU. After a few months of use, experience and feedback from users, the Portal Development Team has produced version 2 for the start of Semester B.

Student Focus
While version 1 had an academic slant, version 2 is student focused. The portal will become the major communication channel between students and the University, giving our students the advantage of total immersion in an integrated learning environment. Content provision and management is key, as the aim is to make the portal both essential and interesting for students such that they will use it for information about their education, programme and courses, educational and social activities inside and outside the classroom, and career planning.

More Contents
To cater for the various needs of the students, more information and content will be provided under “School Services” and “Campus Life” tags. This calls for increased cooperation and collaboration. Support units such as Student Development Services, the Education Development Office and the University Publications Offices have been participating in the design of version 2. The Department of Biology and Chemistry has developed a departmental student homepage for the portal to serve as a direct communication channel between the department and its students, highlighting assistance for their learning.

Major Role
The Library, which was involved from day one, will continue to play a major role. New features in e-Portal include Library recommended reference tools such as the online Oxford English Dictionary and Encyclopaedia Britannica; highlighted careers, scholarships and financial aid sections; and consolidated online subject-related related tutorials.

Continued on page 8
As the primary communication channel of the University, the portal must be able to deliver pertinent information to its users on a timely basis, akin to an online daily newspaper. When an event is announced, rather than users having to search for related information on various websites, the e-Portal aims to provide links to relevant pages provided by different sources. This will require broad cooperation and collaboration in content provision and management.

**Immersion Concept**
To implement the immersion concept, the student intranet will be replaced by CityU e-Portal so all students will use the portal for their daily learning and communications. This will allow a better deployment of scarce resources by concentrating development efforts on improving the portal. To learn more, attend the presentation on “CityU e-Portal – the integrated learning environment” at the WebCourse Fair on 23 January. Your comments and opinions will be welcome!