Upclose with Mr Michael Ying

In a continued effort to fullfil its role as the learning centre of the University and to create a conducive environment for whole person development, the Library has recently hosted a sharing session, “Upclose with Mr Michael Ying”.

Even in the revision period, more than 200 CityU students and staff members gathered together in the Reading/Seminar Room of the Library to join a very interactive, face-to-face upclose session with Mr Michael Ying on May 6.

Mr Michael Ying is one of the Council Members of CityU and the Chairman of the Board of Esprit Holdings Limited. With over 30 years of experience in the apparel industry, Mr Ying has devoted his career to the development of Esprit in Hong Kong and has expanded it into more than 40 countries worldwide. In 2002, Mr Ying was awarded the DHL/SCMP Business Person of the Year Prize and in 2004, he was awarded the Hong Kong Business Mastermind Award presented by the media.

The upclose session was kicked off by our Librarian, Professor Steve Ching, who gave a warm welcome to all participants, followed by the Dean of Undergraduate Education, Professor Richard Y K Ho, facilitating the discussion. After giving a very thought-provoking introduction, Professor Ho opened the floor to a well of insightful and pertinent questions.

All through the session, Mr Ying warmly shared his life and career experiences, as well as his views on various issues ranging from corporate management to human resources management to interview skills. He also advised our students to take advantage of the excellent learning environment while studying at CityU.

The session was concluded by a closing address by our President, Professor H K Chang, who thanked Mr Ying for his long-standing support of CityU.
Partial Access Arrangement

During the Semester B Revision and Examination Period, the need for study space becomes desperate again. While library opening hours have been extended, classrooms are opened up for students' private studies as well. On top of that, the Library imposes a partial access arrangement whereby access to our Library by certain categories of external users will be limited to non-busy hours of the day only. Affected users include the following:

- Holders of Alumni Library Ticket - Reader (*those with reading privileges only*)
- JULAC Card Holders (*students only*) from other UGC institutions
- Reader's Ticket Holders from other UGC institutions

Partial Access Period

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>25 Apr – 11 May 2005*</th>
<th>Non-accessible Time</th>
<th>Accessible Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mon – Fri (except Public Holiday)</td>
<td>08:30 – 17:00</td>
<td>17:01 – 01:00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sat - Sun &amp; Public Holiday</td>
<td>08:30 – 14:00</td>
<td>14:01 – 01:00</td>
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* For the last three days of the Revision and Examination Period (12 May - 14 May 2005), all restriction will be lifted. Normal access will resume.

Pre-overdue Alert Service

With immediate effect, Pre-overdue Courtesy Notices will be sent to user's email account 3 days prior to the item's due date. All checked-out materials from both the Run Run Shaw Library and the Telford Campus Library will be covered by the service, with the exception to short loan items (i.e. materials in the Media Resources Collection, Semi-Closed and Closed Access Collections) and interlibrary loan books.

Given that promptness is of paramount importance for pre-overdue alert, the service can be provided via email notifications only. For certain users who have not provided us with their email address information, they will not be able to enjoy the service. Further information on Library's email notification practice is available in the Library Regulations.

We hope that this new service will help our users avoid overdue fines while at the same time allow them to return or renew their books before the due date. It is always our pleasure to provide user-friendly services.
**Expert Reviews the Chinese Legal History Special Collection**

Housed in the Law Section, the Chinese Legal History Special Collection was established in 1998 to promote and support academic study and research activities in Chinese traditional legal culture. Entering into its eighth year of operation, it is now time to evaluate the Collection and fine tune its future direction. For this purpose, Dr. Pengsheng Chiu (邱澎生博士), a research fellow with Academia Sinica in Taiwan, was invited to visit CityU from March 15-19.

Besides reviewing the Collection with the library staff, Dr. Chiu also met with the School of Law and Chinese Civilization Centre colleagues to understand their information needs. Dr. Chiu basically endorsed the original collection development policy, but wanted to see a more focused approach. While suggesting the removal of several peripheral subjects, he pointed out the areas to be strengthened. Quite a number of important research materials and the possible sources to acquire them were identified.

During his stay in Hong Kong, Dr. Chiu also delivered a remarkable seminar, “Classification and Structure: A Study of the Legal Knowledge and Learning in Ming and Qing Dynasties in China.” Dr. Chiu encouraged CityU researchers to make use of our two special law collections (the second one being the English Law Special Collection) to undertake cross cultural and cross dimensional studies in legal history.

**Faculty Publications and CityU Press Books Go on Display**

As a continued effort to showcase the academic strength of our faculty members, the Library is holding a display of faculty publications as well as CityU Press books on an on-going basis.

Faculty members are invited to loan their publications to the Library for display. Such academic publications may include books and monographs, conference proceedings, and journals. If you would like to have your publications displayed, please send a copy to the Library General Office. The items on display will be changed at regular intervals to reflect the continued effort of CityU staff members in contributing to the world of learning.
Library Supports Academic Exchange

The Library has recently reached an agreement with the Library of Renmin University of China (RUC) to provide reciprocal library support to students and academics engaging in collaborative academic activities between CityU and RUC.

The agreement grants students and academics reciprocal rights to borrow books, make use of resources and facilities housed in the libraries, and library education services to support academic and exchange activities.

For exchange programmes with a visiting period of more than 2 weeks, both libraries will issue students and academics concerned with a Borrower’s Ticket. Academic departments who would like the Library to arrange this service for them may contact colleagues of our Circulation Section at 2788-9134 or send an email to lb@cityu.edu.hk.

Course Reserve - New Depositing Policy

From Semester B 2005 onwards, the Library no longer accepts requests for depositing in our Course Reserve Collection any photocopies of articles or book chapters that are not copyright cleared. This is a move to ensure that what we are doing is copyright compliant. Academic staff members are required to provide copyright clearance support documents when they submit materials as such to the Library hereafter.

With the new depositing policy, there may be some concerns from academic staff members on the transition. Our Library will continue to try our best to offer help to academic colleagues concerned.

If academic staff members are planning to deposit some materials with our Course Reserve Collection for the coming semester, it is IMPORTANT that they do READ our New Depositing Policy for the Course Reserve Collection: http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/collect/c-reserve/policy.htm. For enquiry, please contact our colleagues of our Circulation Section at 2788 9134 / 2788 8314.

New e-Resources

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

WRDS (Wharton Research Data Services), a comprehensive web-based data management system that allows end-users to easily retrieve information from a wide variety of financial, economic, and marketing data sources such as Compustat, CRSP, EXecuComp, I/B/E/S, etc.

Library Renovation Plan

With the completion of some of the ambience works in mid 2003, the Library had enhanced its operations and services to users with the new entrance encompassing a multi-tasks counter. In the process, we had also relocated the reserve and media materials and opened them for browsing, and re-organised our computers and media equipment to provide patrons with better access. Yet the renovation work for the Library had been done on a piece-meal basis, in accordance with the ambience work of the University, there was no detailed overall plan for the renovation of the entire Library.

The Library is really due for a major overhaul as random renovation work over the years had resulted in a far from ideal layout. With space taken away in some areas and released back in others, the use of space has become inefficient and haphazard as and when it is available.

As the Library is the centre for academic exchange in the University, it must provide an environment conducive to education and research activities. In anticipation of the changes to the University in the coming years, we understand the importance of proper space planning, thus a renovation consultancy is current being undertaken for an outline schematic design to renovate the entire Library for the most efficient and effective use of its existing space.

Intended Goals for the Renovation

As the University has plans to increase the student intake steadily over the ensuing 3 years, with the largest increase in part-time evening students, the major goals of the renovation are:

- to increase seating capacity for users for reading or studying.
- to provide varied learning spaces (e.g. group study rooms, discussion rooms, etc.) to facilitate student-centred learning activities from group interaction to personalised learning.
- to improve information access and enhance facilities and service quality.
- to facilitate faculty activities by increasing collection capacity and further development of special collections such as the Pearl River Delta and Law collections to support faculty needs and requirements.

Progress of the Consultancy and Plan of Work for Phase 1

The consultancy work is scheduled to take 3 months to complete and the final outline sketch scheme design is expected by mid-May. This design plan will then provide the basis for renovation works in the Library. The actual renovation project is to be done in phases and likely to take a couple of years to complete with appropriate funding support.

As over 2000 new students will be added to our existing 23,000 student headcounts in September 2005, the Library must start phase 1 of the renovation in the coming Summer Term to be prepared for the new Semester A.

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The plan of work for phase 1 thus includes:
1. Upgrade of existing computer provisions and accommodation for an additional 100 PCs and 25 printers
2. Addition of group study area
3. Installing self-check machines
4. Releasing more space from the semi-closed and current serials areas

As renovation work for the entire Library is likely to take some time to complete, the Library will be consulting and communicating with our users through various channels for their views and inputs throughout the phased project to improve our ambience to provide better services to our users.

Library Involvement in the e-Learning Project

With the aim of enhancing student-centred learning and facilitating teaching, the University is going to implement a new e-learning platform – Blackboard 6 – in the coming new academic year of 2005/2006. In line with the Library’s mission of supporting and augmenting learning, teaching, and research, the Library participates actively in this university wide e-learning project.

The major roles of the Library in the project are to integrate Library resources with the new e-learning system via the Content Management System (CMS) (a featured component of Blackboard 6 for storing files to be shared among Blackboard users) and to develop a user-friendly folder structure to organize institutional information/materials in the CMS.

The current works of the Library in the CMS include:
- In the Course Content area of the CMS, preparing a “Library Resources” folder for each course with links to subject-based highlighted library resources and to a list of Course Reserve materials deposited in the Library. Instructors can then link to this folder from their course site.
- In the Library Content folder of the CMS, providing links to frequently used library resources, services and information, selected and organized based on the results of a survey of user behaviours. Naming of the links is also based on the user-focused common language discovered by the survey.
- Experimenting with the cataloguing of learning objects that will be submitted by instructors to the Learning Object Catalogue of the CMS for sharing with other Blackboard users. This Catalogue serves to provide access to a collection of quality learning objects that can be easily found by both browsing by categories and by keyword searching.

This is an exciting project for the Library and we look forward to seeing CityU students and staff benefit from our works.