Library Opens 24 Hours – An Experimental Trial

In collaboration with the Facilities Management Office, the Library opens 24 hours on an experimental basis during 4 - 20 December in the Revision and Examination Periods. The arrangement is strictly for CityU staff and students (including SCOPE smartcard holders) only.

With increased student intake over the years and an enlarged part-time evening student population, it is anticipated that there may exist the need for overnight study facilities, especially during the examination periods. The experimental trial is therefore a need analysis initiated by the Library and the Facilities Management Office to collect related data for future planning.

During the 24-hour Library access period, the rest of the University Campus will remain closed after 11:00 pm. Access to the Library must be via the Pedestrian Subway or the curved staircases on its two sides and then through the red doors. Within the Library, most areas (including the Information Space) will stay open around the clock, except certain enclosed study areas.

Students are reminded to ensure transport availability when leaving the Library after midnight. Escort service for students will also be provided by security guards if deemed necessary.
Library Renovation

The Spatial Reorganization
The City University of Hong Kong has evolved from a polytechnic to a university that ranks 154 in the world. Coupling with the enormous increment of students and users, the technological changes, the 3-3-4 scheme and the major University-wide initiative, the Outcomes-Based Teaching and Learning (OBTL), the Library is required to integrate all these new challenges and to support the university’s pedagogy.

To further follow the success of ‘Information Space’ established in 2005, the Library has committed itself to take users’ needs as the first priority. In November, the Library had finished re-arranging the existing floor layout by relocating the four technical services sections including Acquisitions, Cataloguing, Serials and Systems to a more remote corner and open up the core central areas for users’ use. As a result of this move, more than 150 seats are added for public reading and studying.

The Establishment of the Learning Commons
Another good news to the users of CityU Library, we have successfully obtained an approval of funding from the Government in August, 2006 to reorganize and to establish a user-oriented Learning Commons in the Library.

The Learning Commons (學習共享空間) is an ideal common space that brings together library, technology and other campus services to facilitate individual study, collaborative research and social interaction. In designing the space, the Library will take reference from successful cases of other libraries and advice from library experts and architects. Facilities enhancing interactive learning such as a user education room and a cyber café, will be included. In creating the Learning Commons, more library offices and collections will be relocated in order to open up more space. The Library Renovation Task Force will work intensively with the design consultant and organize a user discussion forum for staff and students to participate in the Library’s overall space planning so that users’ comments will be incorporated in the design process.

It is estimated that the construction works will be completed by 2008. The Library will also take this opportunity to address the feedbacks and comments collected in the past from users including the issues of air conditioning, ventilation, fire safety, security, lighting and noise control. We understand that any building works in the Library will certainly bring disturbances to the users. The Library will try its best to minimize the inconveniences caused.

Future Development
The initial stage of library renovation was kicked off smoothly with the support of University management, supporting departments such as FMO, CPO and users’ understanding during the renovation process. Our dream with the users in establishing a superb learning environment will span for years and support from both the University and our users shall become a crucial factor in making the dream come true.
空間改造展現成果 繼續推動築夢計畫

○ 圖書館啓動空間改造，展現初步成果
城市大學由十年前的理工學院，蛻變到今天名列世界前154位的最佳大學，圖書館實在有需要更主動、積極地配合大學校務的快速發展。此外，近年因應3-3-4學制的改變、招生人數的增加、以成效為本的教與學理念（Outcome Based Teaching and Learning）的推展，圖書館勢必要根據大學的辦學方針、教師的研究趨勢、學生的學習活動等不同層次的需求進行變革。

圖書館繼去年完成「Information Space」，提供給師生一個便捷、舒適的學習空間之後，為因應校園成員對於閱讀座位的殷切需求，決定以「讀者優先、影響最低」為前提，在今年十一月將採購、編目、期刊及系統等四個不需要直接接觸讀者的技術服務部門予以搬遷，騰出的空間已加設了150個座位，開放提供師生使用。

○ 始於學習，融入科技、探索、創新的優質學習環境
為創造有利於變革的條件，圖書館於今年八月成功地得到大學教育資助委員會（University Grants Committee）的大力支持，同意撥款針對圖書館原有空間的配置方式重新進行規劃，期待建立一個以讀者使用為導向的「學習共享空間（Learning Commons）」，進而形成可以有助於提高學習能力、增進學習成效的優質學習環境。

為了將現有空間轉型成可以因應從休閒閱讀、自學探索到群體研習等不同程度需求的理想學習空間，圖書館經過內部研議、參考有關圖書館的成功案例、徵詢建築專家的意見後，計畫引入學習共享空間的概念，作為未來圖書館改造的焦點，以充分融入科技、鼓勵探索、互動分享的元素。經過初步的規劃，希望所有工程在2008年底之前完成。目前本館正與設計顧問進行密切的聯繫、合作，同時為了在設計翻新過程中能融入使用者的意見，將會組織一個公開論壇，讓全體師生都可以參與未來圖書館空間發展的討論，歡迎屆時所有城大的師生都能踴躍加入討論，提供具有建設性的意見。圖書館同時會利用這個機會改善空調、通風裝置、防火、保安、燈光及噪音控制等問題。圖書館任何的工程活動都肯定會影響到讀者，但我們一定會盡最大的努力，以減輕噪音的干擾、降低使用上的不便。

○ 理想得以實現，努力再創「理想之上」的築夢計畫
隨著近年館內幾項空間改造嘗試性計畫的陸續實現，並獲得師生們的認同與肯定，讓我們更有力氣、更能堅持信念地去推動未來的「築夢計畫」-- 為讀者創建一個優質的學習環境。因此在未來圖書館空間發展的過程中，更加需要大學及讀者的繼續支持，使我們共同編織的夢想得以成真。
SelfCheck Gift Parade

Since their launch in September last year, the two SelfCheck units have been steadily sharing some 14% to 15% of the total checkout transactions. To further promote the use of them and to ensure that newcomers to the University are also made aware of the convenience brought about by the SelfCheck System, the Library launched the SelfCheck Gift Parade again this year from 18 October to 10 November during the first semester of the academic year.

With generous sponsorship from different vendors, the prizes this year were of a great variety. The first round of instant lucky draws had attracted a lot of participants. More than 600 prizes had been given out. Results of the Grand Draw conducted by senior library staff were announced on the Library Home Page on 17 November 2006. Winners were notified individually. An associate degree student from the Community College won an iPod and other lucky ones brought home with them polarizing task lights, thumbdrives, book vouchers and many other attractive prizes.

Usage of the SelfCheck System increased by 7% - 8% to 22% during the Gift Parade period. With assistance from student ambassadors, many newcomers to the University attempted to use the machines for the first time. In a survey conducted during the same period, over 70% of the respondents admitted that they are frequent users of the SelfCheck System. Among them, 90% are satisfied with the SelfCheck Service and will recommend it to other users. They like the service because it is time saving. They do not need to queue up in front of the Circulation Counter during peak hours.

Among those who seldom use the System, the major reason is that they prefer to be served because they like human contact. Of course, the facts that a portion of the Library materials are still not selfcheckable and that users with barcoded library cards are still not eligible to use the service are two other reasons deterring some users from using the service. To ensure that the SelfCheck System can fully function as a convenient alternative for users with different needs and schedule, the Library will continue to explore ways to eliminate the two deterring factors and at the same time, promote self-help culture among the users.
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City Literature Online Promotes Reading Culture

City Literature Online is a joint electronic publishing initiative between CityU Cultural and Sports Committee and the Library which aims to preserve and archive the winning entries of "City Literary Award" and "CityU Literary Award", and all other articles published in City Literature and CityU Literature.

This initiative also widens readership and facilitates reading on the Web.

The Collection includes the inaugural issue of City Literature and all the issues of CityU Literature. All CityU community members and literature lovers are welcome to read and enjoy these excellent and inspiring articles: