



Contents

Message from the Librarian	1
Exhibitions	2
Book Talks	4
Support the Libraries	5
Feature Collection	6
New and Noteworthy	7
Selected Notable Acquisitions	8
Spotlight on Treasures	9-11
Working the Halls	12
WebWise	13
Library Visitors	13-14

Message from the Librarian Making Spirits Bright

As we come to the end of this year, I have given thought to what new year's resolutions I have for the Libraries. Here is my list of six good things to do. I would be pleased to hear from any of you which ones align with your priorities for the Libraries.

Collections quality

Make the best use of available funds to raise the quality level of our collections and services to that which is expected of a top ranked research library in Asia and the world. This will include the completion of the collection analysis project already underway where our holdings and those of the University of Pennsylvania and Johns Hopkins have been used to create a database so that we can better understand our strengths and weaknesses.

Hong Kong Academic Library Link

Provide the leadership for the expansion of HKALL (Hong Kong Academic Library Link), a user initiated interlibrary loan service. We have conducted a successful experiment with City and Lingnan universities over the past nine months. Ninety-five percent of all books requested using HKALL come within 48 hours whereas only 9% of those using traditional ILL come that fast and 43% have still not come within five working days. We need to obtain HUCOM (Head of Universities Committee) and UGC (University Grants Committee) support to purchase the union database/request fulfillment software. This could give HKUL users fast access to 8 million-plus volumes instead of just to our own 2.3 million volumes.

New library

Help make the construction of a new library on the western expansion a reality. This will include working with campus architects and planners to interpret the already completed functional specifications, help raise funds, etc.

Interactions internationally and within China

Expand both the breadth and depth of our interactions with libraries internationally and within China. For example, the quality of our annual Library Leadership Institute, the expense of which is increasingly covered by corporate gifts, needs to be maintained. We need to explore whether expanding the number of commercial electronic Chinese databases makes sense. We are already the mirror site for 4,000+ e-journals and are being asked to provide access to a database of 400,000 e-books. These enterprises raise our international profile but they have to make good business sense as well.

Community outreach

Expand our community outreach programmes, for example, increase participation in our Book Talk series, our secondary school IT training programme, our reading poster programme, and digitise more of our Hong Kong materials, etc., in order to share more of what we have with the people of Hong Kong.

Fund-raising

Find corporate and individual donors willing to help us establish library materials endowment funds for each of our faculties and major research centres.

Best wishes for the New Year.

Anthony Ferguson



EXHIBITIONS

Main Library Lobby

Hong Kong Football Association 90th Anniversary

(香港足球總會九十週年紀念)

23 September - 12 October 2004

The exhibits included photographs of football teams from 1950 to 2004, a display of memorabilia including the jersey worn the team, key rings, footballs of the 50's through 70's. Displays included publications commemorating retired icons such as Chow Chee Keong (仇志強) and Wu Kwok Hung (胡國雄). Free booklets "2004/2005 Hong Kong Football Association Coolpoint Ventilation First Division Football League (2004/2005 年度香港足球總會快意空調甲組聯賽)" were also distributed.



JUPAS Open Day & HKU Libraries

16 - 17 October 2004

To celebrate the University Open Day, an exhibition on the University Libraries and its milestones was held in K.K. Leung Concourse.

Discover e-books: All @Your Finger Tips

13 October - 11 November 2004

The exhibition introduced HKUL's major eBook Collections including netLibrary, ebrary, Safari, Knovel, Oxford Reference Online, Apabi etc. Users were invited to join the eBook Quiz to get a chance to win a lovely bear or other fabulous prizes.



Main Library Art Gallery

China's World Heritage Sites

26 September - 24 October 2004

The display, courtesy of Asia Tourism Exchange Center Ltd, a subsidiary of the China Tourism Association and the Hong Kong China Tourism Press, was mounted to showcase the 32 sites of China in the UNESCO World Heritage List. These two sponsors also provided a generous supply of glossy ad colourful guide books and maps for complimentary distribution at the exhibition gallery.

EXHIBITIONS



“Paris Culture, Paris Info, Paris Inter” 3 November – December 12 2004

October 2004 to July 2005 is the “Year of France in China”. To mark its celebration and 40 years of joint ties between the two countries, an exhibition of photography by Mr Claude Tsang Ka Kit, Vice-President of the Society of Worldwide Ethnic Chinese Photographers and an examiner in Visual Art appointed by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council, was displayed.

At Branch Libraries

Med Alumni Photo Exhibition 13 - 16 October 2004

Exhibit of a photograph from Elixir, a Student Medical Society publication



Several Medical Faculty Alumni (1964 and 1966), together with their families visited the Medical Library.



“Nature’s Best Clothes -- Simple Skin” 20 Oct – 30 Nov 2004

The exhibition was put up by Ms Julia Chan, Medical Librarian, in collaboration with MBBS II students to raise public awareness on skin-related health issues, illustrating the various skin problems and how to maintain healthy and beautiful skin.



Medical Terminology Resources 4 – 16 October 2004

The exhibition at Dental Library helped to promote CD-ROMs and audio CDs as reference tools to assist students with word building, pronunciations and definitions of medical terms.

BOOK TALKS 城西書話



Mr Shih Wing-ching (施永青先生) reviewed *老子註譯及評介* with Dr Ma Ka-fai (馬家輝博士) as the moderator on 23 September 2004. Mr Shih shared how Laoism could be applied in a modern business operation.

Sir David Akers-Jones (鍾逸傑爵士) talked about his book *Feeling the Stones: Reminiscences by David Akers-Jones* on 4 November 2004. The moderator was Mr Tsao Chip (陶傑先生), the translator of the book.

(Audience getting their books signed after the talk.)



Mr Tsering Puntsok (次仁平措先生) discussed *King of Gesar – The Longest Oral Epic From Tibet* on 7 October 2004. He also performed and sang part of an oral epic that night.



The Hon Sir TL Yang (楊鐵樑爵士) talked about *Living Islam : from Samarkand to Stornoway* on 25 November 2004.

(Librarian presenting a souvenir to Sir Yang after the talk.)

To find out more of our past and forthcoming book talks, go to this URL: http://lib.hku.hk/friends/reading_club/index.html



Dr Steve Tsang (曾銳生博士) talked about his book *Modern History of Hong Kong* on 16 December 2004. The moderator was Dr Elizabeth Sinn (洗玉儀博士).

SUPPORT THE LIBRARIES

From April 2004, all HKU Graduate Credit Card holders can join the HKU Libraries Circle of Friends (<http://lib.hku.hk/friends/>) as HKU Alumni-Platinum members at a discounted fee of HK\$400 as a one-year introductory offer.

Besides onsite access to over two million volumes and other resources in the library, as Platinum Friends you can enjoy access *from your home* to:

- over 15,000 e-journals
- over 60,000 e-books
- over 30,000 e-dissertations
- and many more ...

For details and updates, please visit <http://lib.hku.hk/friends/join.html>.

Existing Alumni-Platinum members can still enjoy this offer for renewal during 1 Jan – 31 Mar 2005.



Honour. with Books

憑書寄意 賀新歲

Chinese New Year is just around the corner

Unlike laisee, chocolates or shark fins, this gift is unique and meaningful because it also benefits all HKU students in their learning and is important to the future of Hong Kong.
For details and updates, please call 2859-2217/8903 or visit <http://lib.hku.hk/friends/honourwithbooks/>

怎樣才可以在新年伊始，
向你的摯愛親朋送上一份有意義和恆久的新年禮物呢？

只要捐贈五百元給香港大學圖書館，一張印上你和受致意者雙方名字的藏書票，便會貼在一本新購圖書館藏書的扉頁上，永遠見證你的祝福和美意。

查詢請電 (852) 2859-2217/8903 或瀏覽 <http://lib.hku.hk/friends/honourwithbooks/>

Feature Collection

The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 2nd ed.

Stanley Sadie and John Tyrrell (eds.)
London: Macmillan Publishers Limited 2001
Call no.: MuR 780.3 G88



Helen Woo, Music Librarian



Housed in the Music Library, **The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians, 2nd ed**, a 29-volume reference work, is considered the most authoritative and comprehensive reference source of music information in English. This second edition was published in 2001; Volumes 1 to 27 contain definitions, in alphabetical order, of musical terms, musical instruments, music societies and institutions, biographies of representative composers, singers, performers, and patrons of music from 1450 to the present day.

Since its first publication in twenty volumes in 1980, it has been widely acclaimed as the "Bible" of music, indispensable to all musicians. Tremendous efforts were undertaken by over 6,500 contributors. More than a hundred editors, consultants, proofreaders and administrative staff from 98 countries were engaged into reviewing and revising each of the 22,500 articles from the first edition.

The field of musicology has expanded within the twenty years in between the first and second edition. The greatest expansion in coverage is that on twentieth-century composers, with over 5,000 as compared to 3,000 in the first edition. More composers from every country and more countries have been represented. There is also an increase in subject coverage of jazz and popular music as well as new schools of thought in musicology such as feminism, gay and lesbian music and women in music. The bibliographies at the end of each article are also lengthier. A number of interdisciplinary topics such as the philosophy of music, the psychology of music, the sociology of music have been added. The coverage of non-Western

music has also expanded vastly. There are also entries on a number of recording companies and record labels which resulted in 6,500 new articles, covering topics that used to be considered too far from the mainstream. These additions contributed to create an edition containing a total of over 29,000 articles by over 6000 contributors, with more than 20,000 biographies and over 5,000 photographs, diagrams, drawings and maps.

One feature worth mentioning is the work lists at the end of the articles about composers. The lists are categorised chronologically by genre, to show their outputs, as well as to serve as a starting point to research the composer.

Volume 28 contains fascinating sections: 1. Private collections of printed and manuscript music, letters of musicians, books on music and theoretical works; 2. Musical congress reports arranged chronologically from 1860 to 1998; 3. Bibliographical list and index of more than 1,650 of the most important dictionaries and encyclopedias of music; 4. Editions of past musical repertory; 5. List of libraries with holdings information on their publicly owned collections arranged by country; 6. List of music periodicals including yearbooks, almanacs on music and the annual reports of musical institutions from 1722 to the end of the 20th century arranged by country alphabetically and 7. List of sound and audiovisual archives with significant musical holdings arranged by continent, country and name of institution.

Volume 29 contains a thematic index based on subheadings. This volume also contains a list of composers by date and country, as well as conductors, harpsichordists, organists, pianists, and violinists. A list of performers and singers are arranged by date, in six selected categories of western instruments, and writers are arranged by century and then by category.

The Music Library also has a subscription to **Grove Music Online** (<http://www.grovemusic.com/index.html>), which includes the full-text of The New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians (2nd ed.), The Grove Dictionary of Opera and The New Grove Dictionary of Jazz. The Grove Music Online is updated regularly and hence the contents may differ from the print versions. Articles that have been updated since their print appearance are date stamped in the upper right corner of the screen. Grove Music Online also contains over 3,000 links to related sites, including sound archives and illustrations.



New & Noteworthy

24-Hour Group Study Area



HKU students and staff now have a new place to study on campus - anytime they want.

After two weeks of intensive upgrading and renovation works, we have added a Group Study Area on the ground floor of the Main Library for use 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Since no food and drink are allowed in any other parts of the library, we made the 24-hour study area a separate part from the library and added vending machines so that students can have a drink and a snack while studying in that area at the same time.

The upgrading works included installation of a smart card access system, a dedicated air-conditioning system for the area, a CCTV system, a help alarm and some lighting at the entrance from the backyard. Outside the opening hours of the Main Library, users with a valid University ID card can access the 24-hour facility via the rear entrance.

To save energy, the new air-conditioning system is also equipped with motion sensors such that its operation can be automatically adjusted when no user is detected in that area.

The Group Study Area has 2 rooms and 5 informal group study areas with white boards and office landscaping panels to provide some privacy between small groups. The rooms and the informal study areas are furnished with oval tables and chairs to facilitate collaborative work and discussion among small groups of students. The Group Study Area also has 15 individual study carrels for private study.

New Legal Resource

Law Library's Guides & Pathfinders (lib.hku.hk/lawlib/guides.html) webpage has added a new resource, *A to Z of HKLI*, a glossary to assist all interested users of HKLI (Hong Kong Legal Information Institute), Hong Kong's first and foremost free legal portal. Also on this page are links to assist students and researchers in the use of Westlaw, in particular *Westlaw Hong Kong Research Guide*, the first truly localised handbook for Westlaw research made available from the publisher, not to be missed by all law students. Limited free copies of the Research Guide and other useful handbooks are available in the Westlaw Resource Centre in the Law Library.



Postgraduate non-degree students can now access UGC libraries with JULAC cards

The Libraries is pleased to announce that access services to other UGC libraries have been extended to postgraduate non-degree students. Visit <http://lib.hku.hk/mainlib/ill.html#4> for more access details.



SELECTED NOTABLE ACQUISITIONS

Encyclopedia of polymer science and technology /
[executive editor: Jacqueline I. Kroschwitz]. 3rd ed.
Hoboken, N.J. : Wiley-Interscience, c2003-2004.

This completely new third edition of the Encyclopedia of Polymer Science and Technology brings the state-of-the-art to the 21st century, with coverage of nanotechnology, new imaging and analytical techniques, new methods of controlled polymer architecture, biomimetics, and more.



Urban culture : critical concepts in literary and cultural studies / edited by Chris Jenks. Abingdon : Routledge, 2004.

This collection is an interdisciplinary study focusing on the various cultural aspects of city life. The works included are drawn from a broad range of canonical and secondary sources and emphasise the 'new', covering modernist and postmodernist perspectives of urban culture. The collection is arranged thematically highlighting the variety of interests that coexist (and conflict) within the city. Issues such as gender, class, race, age and disability are covered along with urban experiences such as walking, politics & protest, governance, inclusion and exclusion. 'Urban pathologies', including gangsters, mugging and drug-dealing are also explored.



清代吏治史
北京市 : 線裝書局, 2004

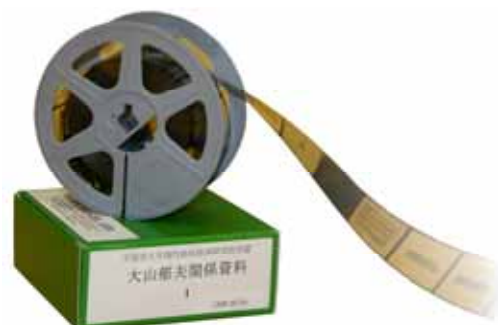
本書是一部關於清朝官制改革的檔案文獻資料，由五部分組成：吏制改革史料 (6冊) -- 官員銓選史料 (34冊) -- 官員管理史料 (54冊) -- 官員禮儀史料 (5冊) -- 官員庶務史料 (2冊)



Waseda Daigaku Gendai Seiji Keizai Kenkyūjo shozō Ōyama Ikuo kankei shiryō /
Waseda Daigaku Gendai Seiji Keizai Kenkyūjo hen. [40 microfilm reels]
Tōkyō : Yūshōdō Shuppan Firumu Shuppan Jigyōbu, 1999.

早稲田大学現代政治経済研究所所蔵大山郁夫関係資料/早稲田大学現代政治経済研究所編. 東京 : 雄松堂出版フィルム事業部, 1999.

A collection of personal records and papers of scholar, political refugee, pacifist and statesman of the proletarian party Ikuo Oyama.





SPOTLIGHT ON TREASURES

Cheung Mo-ching 張慕貞
Archivist and Records Manager

《英語集全》[6卷]

特 C 805.132 021 v.1-6

6冊1函，線裝。清同治元年[1862]廣州緯經堂製板及發行。原名為：《華英音釋》。正文卷端題「英語集全卷一。羊城唐廷樞景星甫著。兄植茂枝。弟庚應星參校。陳恕道逸溪。廖冠芳若谿全訂」。序凡三：張玉堂首序清同治元年三月於九龍官署鵝飛魚躍西樓（張乃收復九龍城的副將。）；次由青溪外史吳湘於同治元年清明節序於珠江旅舍；三序為楊廷樞自題。目錄前有《切字論》及《讀法》短文兩篇，卷一前有《切音撮要》，附有英文字母十一種書體及讀音表，卷二至卷六文前均附【切音略撮4葉】。此書編排一如今之漢英詞典，條列漢語字詞為主，下有中文注英文譯，旁有一行以西文字母注出該漢字的讀音，下為與該字相應的英文單字。全書正文共524葉，將基礎詞匯成53門，合122類，收詞匯、短語、簡單句子在9100個以上（吳義雄謂有6000個以上，數字統計未準確。）書葉曾作修補，並有少部份水漬遺痕。



《英語集全》

板式：半葉六行，行最多28字，四周雙邊，白口，雙魚尾。書高22公分，框高19.8公分，寬14.1分。

版心上欄題：英語集全；中題卷次、卷目、葉次；下題：緯經堂板，板頂眉批部份刻有比較切音、校正或附註。

藏印：水雲/樓主/曾藏【陰刻朱方篆】；面壁/齋圖/書【陰紋小方篆】；劉盛【朱紋方印】；劉盛書東【朱紋方印】

書影



《英語集全》是兼備詞典和教科書性質的綜合性著作。書中英文表達正確，兼具口語和書面語，標志著中國人學習英語語言知識的第二個歷史階段的開端。它是當時教授正規英語最好的教材，為了說明正規英語與洋涇濱英語（Pigeon English）的區別，作者在書中經常以兩者作比較，無形中揭示了當時流行的洋涇濱英語的形態。所謂 Pidgin English 或 Chinese Pigeon English，譯謂：別琴英語，為商業英語 Business English 的訛音，而洋涇濱英語則是 Pidgin English 的對譯。洋涇濱原是清代上海縣城北面的一條小河，鴉片戰爭以後成為外國租界與華界之間的界線。習慣上將法租界以南至小東門一帶稱為洋涇濱，這一地區因為是外貿碼頭所在，初期經常有人操蹩腳的英語作為中國人與外國人之間的貿易中介，後來這種英語直接成了中外買賣雙方之間常用語言，於是這種英語就被稱為洋涇濱英語。作者在序中曾說明編撰的動機，即欲助國人學好英語和讓華人買辦有書可用。如云：『旋遊閩浙諸省，到洋務中所在來問學者尤多，因觀諸友不通英語吃虧者有之，受人欺瞞者有之，或因不曉英語受人凌辱者有之，故復將此書校正焉。雖不足以濟世，不過為洋務中人稍為方便耳...』。作者編撰時加以分門別類，其訂謬指訛，莫不條

分縷晰，至吹唇音、捲舌音、心為分等，尤發前人所未發，誠為國人早期學習英語者之津梁。今日讀之，若用廣東省城字音校讀，即可知其準確。

此書乃馮平山圖書館第二任館長陳君葆先生[1898-1982]所贈，為港內獨套。臺灣國家圖書館亦具藏本存於善本書庫並製有微捲。惟其目錄將此書列作“經部—小學類—讀本之屬—蒙求書”宜加修正。此書為研究英語發音的一本素材，而讀者若要一嚐拿著線裝書學英文的滋味，此書可引入津津之境。



SPOTLIGHT ON TREASURES

“Ying Ú Tsap Ts'un =The Chinese and English instructor”

Ying yu ji quan : [6 juan / Tang Tingshu zhu]

6 volumes, on double leaves, oriental style, in case.

A notable early English reader and a first English-Chinese dictionary compiled by Tang Tingshu 唐廷樞, a native of the Canton Province and a Chief Officer of China Merchants during 1873-1884.

This 19th-century publication comprising of 6 volumes is written by Tang Tingshu in the Cantonese dialect. It was tailored to the Canton people who had business transactions or were connected with westerners or foreigners.



Tang Tingshu 唐廷樞



A sample entry from the book:

1. 不敢當 [Chinese characters of a word or a phrase is first given]
2. *pat kom tong* [Cantonese pronunciation of the word or phrase expressed in English]
3. *Thank you* [Meaning of the word or phrase in English is then given]
4. 丁其[口天] [The pronunciation of the word in English for “Thank you” is transcribed in Chinese characters]

This “dictionary” is not only a primer for the Chinese/Cantonese to learn English, but it was a useful tool at the time for foreigners to learn Chinese. Entries of words and phrases in each volume are arranged by topics such as Astronomy, Geography, etc. for easy reference. This rare publication also contains a copy of the export and import tariffs and several other useful tables, such as those on “times and seasons”, “weights” and “law suits”, etc.

Ying Ú Tsap Ts'un is the one of the most important 19th-century publications on Chinese Pidgin English. By recording the pronunciation of contemporary speech in English and Pidgin English which were rendered in Chinese characters, it provides a critical reference for comparison to English sources.

附錄一：唐廷樞 [1832-1892]小傳

唐廷樞，中國近代史上一位著名的洋行買辦。初名唐杰，字建時，號景星，又號鏡心。廣東香山縣唐家村(今珠海市唐家鎮)人，出身貧農。父親唐寶臣，母親梁氏，兄弟共四人，廷樞排行第二。1839年，唐廷植、廷樞、廷庚三兄弟在馬禮遜紀念學校 (Morrison Education Society School) 免費就讀，和容闈等人為同學。1851年起在香港政府作過七年翻譯，後在上海海關任職。1861年加入怡和洋行 (Jardine, Matheson & Co.)，代理該行長江一帶生意，1873年接受李鴻章的委任，轉任輪船招商局的改組工作及籌辦開平煤礦，主持興辦中國第一條鐵路－開平鐵路；和第一家水泥廠－唐山細棉土廠。1892年10月7日，病逝天津。《英語集全》的出版，乃唐氏三十歲時的撰著。



SPOTLIGHT ON TREASURES

附錄二：[中國初期見於文獻的學習英語材料簡表]

次第	書名	作者	出版情況	備註
1	鬼話 Devils Talk			三四十年代流傳於廣州
2	番鬼在中國		廣州, 1838	
3	中國商業指南	John Robert Morri-	1834	
4	華英通用雜話上卷 Chinese and English vocabulary, part first.	Robert Thom 湯姆, Or 羅伯聃 (英人)	題1843.8月10日於廣州	另作者譯有《意拾喻言》, 即 Aesop Fables, 英人學習漢語之
5	紅毛買賣通用鬼話		1837	16頁, 400個單詞, 四目: 數量,
6	紅毛番話. 貿易須知		以文堂	近400詞
7	華英通語	?子卿 [粵人]	何紫庭序於咸豐乙卯 [1855]	
8	增訂華英通語		?快堂藏板. 萬廷庚申	
9	英語撮要			
10	英語集全 6卷	唐廷樞	[同治元年六月 羅惇策題] 廣州: 緯經堂, 1862	9118詞
11	英語注解 [英話注解]	馮澤夫	上海棋盤街著昌堂 光緒丙戌年版	寧波話注音
12	英字入門	曹驥 (潤輔)	同治十三年孟夏鐫 [1874] [光緒22年書局石印本]	注滬音
13	英字指南	楊勛 (少坪)	初版於光緒五年 [1879]	作者在申報曾發 “比琴竹枝詞
14	華英字典集成	鄺其照	光緒十三年 [1887]	
15	華英類語	卓岐山	光緒三十年重刊 [1904]	
16	新增華英通語		裕文堂 光緒己年重校 1905	在日本英語學發史上是一座里程
17	唐字調音英語		1904初版	

參考資料：

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WORKING THE HALLS

Tightening of library materials budget ahead...

New information resources are released every year with substantial price increase. With an impending 3% to 5% cutback in the Library Resources Fund anticipated possibly for the next two years, how do we make adjustments to keep expenditure in line with the increasing new resources and the rising cost of serials subscriptions, which averages 8% increase annually? Under these circumstances, what we anticipate is fewer subscriptions for both print and electronic resources, while hopefully avoiding big cuts in the book budgets.

At the recent meeting of the Shared Electronic Resources Fund Advisory Committee (SERFAC), members agreed upon a strategy to contain the expenditures while keeping up spending on high priority resources:

- ◆ Avoid paying twice for the same content to optimise use of funds, ie. strive towards e-only whenever deemed appropriate and allow shift of funds from print budgets where the electronic versions have replaced the print version.
- ◆ Cancel existing unique subscriptions (print and/or electronic) deemed lower priority to provide funding for higher priority contents.
- ◆ Use the net savings of 10-15% from serials rationalisation exercise to pay for new unique contents.
- ◆ Eliminate similar/overlap coverage in any format.
- ◆ More consortial purchase for higher discounted prices and wider coverage/access.
- ◆ Minimise increases by taking advantage of multi-year licenses.

Subject and Branch Librarians will be working with their assigned faculties during the current fiscal year to rationalise expenditures and to rectify any shortfalls in the budget. When new needs or high priority resources are identified and there are insufficient funds in the respective account to cover a new purchase, the respective subject librarian will recommend the use of other appropriate funds to cover the shortfall, in consultation with the faculty library representative, e.g. use of the book fund to cover a needed electronic-resource.

While the impact will be felt by the overall reduction in purchase power as a result of potential budget cuts and materials' price inflation, the Libraries is still funded to acquire extensive resources. Needed titles or resources will be kept up and given highest priority for library materials expenditure.

Gayle Chan
Collection Development Librarian

In Albuquerque

David Palmer, Systems Librarian, visited the University of New Mexico Library, and made a presentation "Upstream Content Management in an ILS, Downstream Integrated Access, Authentication, Portals, and Statistics" at the ALA Library & Information Technology Association (LITA) National Forum 2004, 7-10 October. He attended the Pacific Rim Digital Libraries Meeting in Taipei on 18 October and gave two presentations "Metafind: Universal Search Interface" and "Open Archives Initiatives" to the PRDLA members.



University of New Mexico Library and its Special Collections.

WebWise

Ubiquitous Access to our Electronic Resources in the Fast Lane

When you use many of our licensed electronic resources from your home, office or other non-HKU site while abroad, you are able to access these sites and/or retrieve full-text material from them using our EZproxy service. EZproxy provides the easiest way for libraries to extend web-based licensed databases to our remote users. It requires no configuration on the user's part.

To enhance our service to our users, we have recently upgraded and configured our EZproxy service on multiple systems that provides high-performance, load-balancing and high-availability. We have an additional server to work together with our existing Sun E4000. The new server is a Red Hat Linux based **Dual Xeon** equipped with a Gigabit Ethernet. Busy sites typically employ more than one server in a load balancing scheme. Load balancing is especially important for networks where it's difficult to predict the number of requests that will be issued to a server. If one server starts to get swamped, requests are forwarded to another server with more capacity.



For the curious, here is further information on how the remote access service works:

The HKU Libraries provides online access to a number of commercial and in-house resources. These resources, which include databases, and electronic journals and books, are not available free to the general public, so access is restricted to computers on the HKU network. This is referred to as domain restriction.

When your computer is physically located on campus and connected to the HKU network, user authentication and access to our resources is handled automatically. You will be sent directly to our resources.

On the other hand, if your connection is made from another network or through a commercial ISP abroad, you need to make it appear as though you are on the HKU network. To accomplish this, you use our EZProxy service. After you have successfully logged on with your University ID and password, you will be identified as a legitimate HKUL user, with access to our electronic resources. For more information on off campus access, visit http://lib.hku.hk/general/faq/faq_oca.html

So What's the "Big Deal"?

Unveiling the Most Talked About Issue in the Library and Information Market

Probably one of the most written about issues in the library and information market over the last few years has been the "Big Deal". Simply put, when libraries enter the Big Deal with a publisher, they agree to maintain the current payments to that publisher, plus an annual price increase for the term of the contract, which is usually three to five years. In exchange for ensuring the publisher a steady stream of income, the libraries get electronic access to the publisher's entire journal collection by paying a surcharge that is only a fraction of the total cost of the non-subscribed journals.

"The main point is ... to have the option of attrition"

As mentioned in our communication on the 04 Serials Rationalisation Exercise, a number of top U.S. university libraries opted out of the Big Deal in 2004 in an attempt to restore control over their collections and budgets. By opting out, these libraries only pay for subscriptions to the individual journals they select. As Sidney Verba, Director of the Harvard University Library, told the Library Journal Academic Newswire, "the main point is...to have the option of attrition, especially in times of real financial stress, like now" and "to hold down overall expenses through cancellations".

But there are other sides to the story. Some have felt that these big package contracts substantially widen the scope of titles available, at a small premium, especially for institutions that have small collections. Tom Sanville, Executive Director of the Ohio Library and Information Network, said in an interview by The Chronicle of Higher Education that "the amount each college spends for the database is not significantly different from what it spent just to receive titles in print" and "this is [a] huge increase in opportunity for [their] students and faculty".

Packaged deal: to have or not to have?

It was also noted by many that libraries wishing to forgo the packaged deal and pay individually for electronic access could do so, but would only realise limited financial savings, at least in the short run, as fees for individual titles would be much steeper. Ann Okerson, Associate Librarian at Yale University, said in the same Chronicle article that "when consortium members drop individual ScienceDirect titles, they save no more than a set percentage of the money they spend on the package", a "modest" figure. Verba

WebWise

also noted that "it is a perfectly reasonable tradeoff to receive price reductions if you do take that contract...Other libraries may calculate this in the other direction, buying the larger-term bundle may make sense."

What now for HKUL?

HKUL has entered a number of bundled e-journals agreements over the years, including agreements with Elsevier, Kluwer, Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press. Our usage statistics indicate that the non-subscribed titles in these packages have been well used. For example, in 2003, non-subscribed titles accounted for 18% of our total OUP journal usage, with a total of 7,694 full-text downloads. The use of Elsevier non-subscribed titles was even more impressive: 109,379 full-text downloads in 2003, accounting for 30.5% of the total usage. These figures are in line with some other e-journal usage studies (e.g. Wayne State University, OHIOLINK, and Israel Universities Library Network) which have shown that non-subscribed titles could enjoy significant usage. As our library is also beginning to feel the budget crunch, we hope that by implementing other cost-cutting measures and collection development strategies, we can continue to provide our users access to these valuable resources.

Janny Lai
Electronic Resources Acquisitions Librarian

LIBRARY VISITORS

Date	Visitors/Institutions
14 Sep 2004	Prof Mithran Goonewardene, Programme Director, University of Western Australia visited the Dental Library
15 Sep 2004	Prof Wan Min (完珉) School of Law, Shanxi University visited the Law Library
20 Sep 2004	Prof Cai Yongmin (蔡永民), School of Law, Lanzhou University and Prof Chen Jian-ping (陳建萍), School of Law, Xin Jiang University visited the Law Library
20 Sep 2004	Prof Hee Moon Kyung (景熙文), Kyungpook National University (慶北大學校), Republic of Korea visited the Dental Library
27 Sep 2004	Prof Yin Yuan (尹源), Peking University Health Science Library and Ms Shen Xia (沈霞), Peking University Health Science Library visited the Law Library
4 Oct 2004	Prof Deepak Prasher, University of College London visited the Dental Library
5 Oct 2004	A delegation of 30 students from the Tsinghua University High School visited the Law Library
18 Oct 2004	Dr Sven Rinke, Senior lecturer, Georg-August-University, Germany visited the Dental Library
20 Oct 2004	Ms Yukari Ando (安藤由香里), Graduate School of International Development, Department of International Cooperation Studies, Nagoya University, Japan visited the Law Library
20 Oct 2004	A 15-member delegation from (吉林省高校圖書館考察團) visited the Main Library and Fung Ping Shan Library
22 Oct 2004	Jim Cheng, Head, International Relations and Pacific Studies Library & East Asia Collection, University of California, San Diego, visited the Main Library and Fung Ping Shan Library
22 Oct 2004	Nancy M. Cline, Roy E. Larsen, Librarian of Harvard College and James Cheng, Librarian of Harvard-Yenching Library, Harvard University, visited the Main Library and Fung Ping Shan Library

LIBRARY VISITORS

Date	Visitors/Institutions
5 Nov 2004	Dr Tipaporn Vongsurasit, Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Dr Ravewan Punyangarm, Head, Department of General Dentistry, Faculty of Dentistry, Dr Suwit Wimonchit, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Dr Ohbeua Charoensupaya, Associate Dean for Administration, Dr Ekachai Chunhacheevachaloke, Assistant Dean for International Relations, Dr Nonglak Sombuntham, Secretary to the Dean, Srinakharinwirot University, Thailand visited the Dental Library
8 Nov 2004	A 4-member delegation from Dental School, Nanjing Medical University (南京醫科大學口腔醫學院) led by Prof Wang Lin (王林), Dr R.G. "Wick" Alexander, Baylor College of Dentistry, Ms Melanie Adams, Programme Coordinator, Centre for the Rehabilitation of the Paralysed, Bangladesh, Prof Tomohiro Okano and Dr Ryuta Kataoka, Showa University, Japan visited the Dental Library
9 Nov 2004	Ms Susie Ho, Deputy Secretary, Health, Welfare and Food Bureau and Ms Irene Young, Principle Assistant Secretary, Education & Manpower Bureau, HKSAR visited the Dental Library
10 Nov 2004	Ms Yin Shu-mei, Assistant Librarian, Automation Department and Mr Xie Zhi-yun, Assistant Director and Head, Reference and Information Department, Peking University Health Science Library visited the Education Library

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HKU LIBRARIES

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Be careful about reading health books. You may die of a misprint. — Mark Twain