



HKLA Newsletter

Hong Kong Library Association

HKLA Newsletter

No. 75, May 2007

Message from the President

A warm welcome to all HKLA members! Although my term as the new President of the Association is only a few months old, I have already been impressed by the energy and enthusiasm of the HKLA Council and the range of activities in which we have been involved so far.

In January the HKLA hosted a seminar on "Library 2.0" by Professor Blair Kaufmann of Yale University, and last month we undertook our first visits for the year with a tour of the libraries of the Hang Seng School of Commerce and the Chi Lin Nunnery. Planning is already well

advanced for a HKLA study trip to Vietnam in May, to be followed by a proposed trip to Macau and Zhuhai later in the year. Preparations are also already well underway for the annual Careers and Education Forum, and new seminars to support Hong Kong's librarianship students are being planned. And finally, after three years of planning and preparation, the READ posters - featuring Hong Kong celebrities and their favourite books - are about to be launched and displayed in

libraries, bus stops and MTR stations throughout Hong Kong.

Our new Council members for 2007 have already taken up their respective roles alongside returning members, giving us a wonderful mix of experience and new ideas.

My thanks are due to Ms Julia Chan, the outgoing President of the Association, who has lead the HKLA for the past two years and has been instrumental in organizing many activities, including the chairing of the READ Poster campaign

committee.

The next two years

promise to be lively, enjoyable and informative as we look forward to the 50th anniversary of the Hong Kong Library Association. I look forward to serving

you as the new President,

and to seeing you at the many events that we are planning for the future.

Inside:

News from the Field	2
Feature: HK Shue Yan University Library	4
Feature: HK Library Education in IFLA's Guides	6
Forthcoming Events	7
Feature: My Days in Scandinavia	8
People in the New	11
Events	11
Conferences	13

Announcement

- President: Mr. Michael ROBINSON
- Vice President: Mr. Jim CHANG
- Honorary Secretary: Ms. Venia MAK
- Honorary Treasurer: Ms. LEUNG Yau-ching
- Minutes Secretary: Dr. Francis CHAN
- Membership Secretary: Ms. Winnie LAM
- Education and Training Committee Chair: Mr. Leo MA
- Program Coordinator: Mr. Sidney CHENG
- Information Technologies Liaison Officer: Mr. Kevin LEUNG
- Academic Libraries Liaison Officer: Ms. Annabelle PAU
- Public Libraries Liaison Officer: Ms. Rochelle LAU
- School Libraries Liaison Officer: Ms. Deborah TSE Man-Yi
- Special Libraries Liaison Officer: Ms. Louisa SUEN
- Newsletter Editor: Ms. Anita CHAN



Mr. Michael Robinson
President of the HKLA, 2007-2008



Hong Kong Library Association Council Members 2007

Hong Kong Library Information Synergy @HKBU Library

The Hong Kong Baptist University Library has launched the Hong Kong Library Information Synergy (HKLIS) for free public access. HKLIS is a joint project of the Special Collections & Archives and Systems Office. This project is the Library's initiatives to:

- 1) enhance the access to some selective collections in Hong Kong libraries,
- 2) disseminate the information on the development of Hong Kong libraries and information services back in the 1850s,
- 3) provide the citations of Hong Kong librarians' English and Chinese writings in library science and information services, and
- 4) present the digitization projects launched by Hong Kong libraries in one single platform.

The three major components of HKLIS are Union Collections, Hong Kong Library Science Database and Hong Kong Digitization Project Initiatives. Each component features different aspects of the great work and contributions of the Hong Kong libraries and librarians.

- 1) **Union Collections**
The four Union Collections are basically four virtual union catalogs of selective collections of Hong Kong libraries. They provide unique and user-friendly platforms for cross-searching dissertations and theses, medical, law, music score and multimedia collections indexed in the OPACs of JULAC libraries, the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Library and government libraries. Details of the four Union Collections are as follows

i. Dissertations and Theses Collections (DTC) - <http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/dol.html>

DTC is an online union collection of Hong Kong postgraduate students' doctoral and master's dissertations and theses indexed in the OPACs of seven JULAC libraries in Hong Kong. DTC creates links to the dissertations and theses records indexed in the libraries of your choice, and leads you to their abstracts and full text, if open access is available from the corresponding libraries. It facilitates an easy one-stop search on the research work of local postgraduate students in various disciplines.

ii. Law Library Collections (LLC) -

<http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/lc.html>

LLC enables users to cross-search the collections of five academic and government libraries, they are:

- * Chinese University of Hong Kong Law Library,
- * City University of Hong Kong - Law Collection,
- * Judiciary Library of Hong Kong SAR,
- * Legislative Council Library of Hong Kong SAR,
- * University of Hong Kong Law Library.

iii. Medical Library Collections (MLC) -

<http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/mlc.html>

MLC allows users to cross-search library collections of both western and Chinese medicine in:

- * Chinese University of Hong Kong - Institute of Chinese Medicine,
- * Chinese University of Hong Kong Li Ping Medical Library,
- * Hong Kong Baptist University Chinese Medicine Library,
- * University of Hong Kong Dental Library,

* University of Hong Kong Medical Library.

iv. Multimedia Collections (MTC) - <http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/mtc.html>
MTC provides users a convenient platform to cross-search the multimedia and music scores collections of eight JULAC libraries and the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Library.

2) Hong Kong Library Science Database (HKLS) -

<http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/hkls.html>

HKLS facilitates a one-stop search on the citations of Hong Kong librarians' writings and publications on library science & information, as well as any other local and overseas publications or works on the themes of Hong Kong libraries and information services. The English and Chinese publications or works indexed in HKLS are dated from the 1850s to 2006. Document types include books, book chapters, conference papers, master's and doctoral dissertations and theses, journal articles, newspaper articles, web information and Hong Kong government documents, etc. This database is useful to researchers, especially students and professionals of library and information services who are interested in the development of libraries and information services in Hong Kong, as well as the contributions of Hong Kong librarians in these fields.

3) Hong Kong Digitization Project Initiatives (HKdpi) -

<http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/hkdpi.html>

HKdpi is an index of the digitization projects launched by Hong Kong libraries.

These digitization projects are the libraries' significant achievements and efforts in digitizing their rare and interesting collections for information dissemination and preservation. The projects indexed in HKdpi cover a wide range of subject areas and come in various formats of full text, index, abstract and multimedia. Searchable description and URLs of these digitization projects are available.

HKLIS, with its user-friendly and multifaceted functionality, can definitely help students, researchers, laymen, library and information science professionals in their information search. Efforts will be made to include all relevant citations and information to HKLIS, but inadvertent omissions may occur. We therefore invite our users to alert us by sending us comments or filling in the "Add a citation" and "Add a link" boxes in the HKLS and HKdpi web pages respectively. We also hope you will introduce this interesting and useful project to your users and create a link to your library homepage. The URL of Hong Kong Library Information Synergy (HKLIS) is <http://www.hkbu.edu.hk/lib/electronic/libdbs/hklis.html>.

Writers

Wong, Irene Suk Mei is the Assistant Librarian at the Special Collections & Archives of the Hong Kong Baptist University Library, her e-mail address is ismwong@hkbu.edu.hk

Li, Yiu On is the Assistant Librarian at the Systems Office of the Hong Kong Baptist University Library, his e-mail address is yoli@hkbu.edu.hk

Hong Kong Baptist University Library won Two Awards

The Hong Kong Baptist University Library won two awards at the 7th Annual Hong Kong Innovative Users Group (HKIUG) Meeting held at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology in December 2006, namely the *HKIUG Most Active Presenting Institutions Award* and the *HKIUG Most Active Presenters Award*.

Presenting Institutions Award and the *HKIUG Most Active Presenters Award*.

The HKIUG Most Active Presenting Institutions Award recognizes three institutions that have given the highest number of presentations at HKIUG Annual Meetings. Thanks to the combined efforts of library staff members Ms. Loletta Chan, Mr. Paul Lee, Mr. Li Yiu-on, Miss Irene Wong and Miss Wing Woo, HKBU was the champion in this category.



Mr. Li Yiu-on, the Systems Librarian, won the championship of the HKIUG Most Active Presenters Award. He had made a total of seven presentations at the past HKIUG Annual Meetings. This award was also presented to two other presenters who had given the highest number of presentations.

The HKIUG is an organization of representatives from libraries in Hong Kong and Macau which use the Millennium integrated library software system produced by

Innovative Interfaces, Inc. <http://www.iii.com/>. Currently it has 15

members. To celebrate the 10th Anniversary of HKIUG, four categories of Special Awards were presented to individuals and institutions for their contributions to the Group in the past 10 years. Details are available from <http://hkiug.ln.edu.hk/meetings/am2006/>



Annual General Meeting 2006

The 48th Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong Library Association was held on December 07, 2006 at the Prince Hotel, Tsimshatsui.

HKLA President Ms Julia Chan, began by highlighting the major events and achievements of the previous year. The presentation of the audited statement of accounts and the election of the Honorary Auditor was then followed by the election of new council members.

This was followed by a talk by the Honourable Margaret Ng (吳靄儀), member of the HKSAR Legislative Council talk which inspired a very lively question-and-answer session among the audiences.

Ms Julia Chan, the Honourable Margaret Ng, Dr Kan then presented prizes to the recipients of the H A Rydings Awards, the Heleni Linton Bursary and the Kan Lai Bing Awards.

Highlight of the night was a video vividly recapped all the major activities done by the 2005/2006 council. The AGM then concluded with the annual dinner, enjoyed by over 80 participants.

Features

**From a small reading room to a university library:
Hong Kong Shue Yan University Library**



On 19th December 2006, the Chief Executive in Council approved "Hong Kong Shue Yan College" to change its titles to "Hong Kong Shue Yan University". The year of Hong Kong Shue Yan College 35th Anniversary is also the year of the first private university in Hong Kong.

History of the University

Hong Kong Shue Yan University(香港樹仁大學), the former Hong Kong Shue Yan College (樹仁書院) was founded in 1971 by Dr. Henry H. L. Hu (胡鴻烈) and Dr. Chung Chi Yung (鍾期榮). They concerned over the acute shortage of college places for the local Form VI students aspiring after university education, made up their minds to establish an institution of higher learning for the benefit of the youths and in the interests of Hong Kong society as a whole. The University also persists a complete four years university education in the past thirty-five years.



Happy Valley campus
(1971)

The College was first set up at Sing Woo Road, Happy Valley, in 1971 with 280 students. In 1976, the Chinese titles was changed to 樹仁學院 and it moved to a seven-storey building on Monmouth Path in Wan Chai in the next year to accommodate a growing number of students. Braemar Hill campus was granted by the Hong Kong Government in 1978. The first building was completed in 1985.

Two more buildings, the 19 storey Library Complex and the 29-storey Residential and Amenities

Complex were in opening beside the main campus in 1995 and 2005 respectively.

Since 2001, degree programmes were validated by the Council for Academic Accreditation. The final institutional review was passed in May 2005 that Hong Kong Shue Yan University currently offers ten degrees programme and an honours diploma programme.

Chief Executive, Mr. Donald Tsang attended the inauguration ceremony on 14th February 2007.

The Library

The first generation library was a small reading room in Happy Valley campus and then moved to Wan Chai

campus in 1977. In 1985, the College moved to Braemar Hill campus, the third generation library was located in the 5th floor basement. The Library also implemented the first generation integrated library system, Dynix in 1993 with cataloguing and circulation modules.



In 1995, the second phase

The third generation library in the 5th floor basement (1985-1995)

campus development, Library Complex was completed, the fourth generation library move to Library complex and was located from 2/F to 6/F on 15th November 1995. The Governor, Sir Chris Patten attended the opening ceremony.

In 2003, the Library reviewed

The Governor, Sir Chris Patten attended the opening ceremony of Library Complex (1995)



the development strategy and implemented the second generation library integrated system, INNOPAC

Millennium. The new system was launched in May 2005.

Currently, the Library has five floors, about 4,500 square meters. Three floors allow open shelves and users can access freely. About 210,000 volumes printed materials including Chinese books, English books, bounded serials and special collection.

More than 30,000 electronic books can be accessed through on the Internet. Moreover, about 7,000 items of media resources, including DVD, VCD, audio and video tapes and multimedia packages etc. The Library also subscribes to over 25,000 electronic and 900 print journal titles.

17 fulltime staff is working in the Library including 6 professional staff, 1 paraprofessional staff, 6 supporting staff & 4 manual workers. There are 3,500 library users including undergraduate students, postgraduate

students and staff. To increase working efficiency, a 3 levels, simple and flat structure (Librarian, section heads and supporting staff) is organized. This structure

benefits to communicate no matter horizontally and vertically. We also build an open and initiative

corporate culture in the Library. The Library always holds user survey, education classes and topical display in order to fulfill the different needs from users.

Honorably, Hong Kong Shue Yan University Library was donated “Zhonghua zai zao shan ben” (中華再造善本) by National Ministry of Education in January 2007. The project was initiated by National Ministry of Culture and Ministry of Finance in 2002. Total volumes of the project are about 10,000 and value over RMB 3 million. The aim of this project is to preserve and propagate the valuable Chinese rare books systematically and share with the public. On 14th January, the book bestowing ceremony was held in the University,

Professor Yuan Guiren (袁貴仁), the Vice-

Minister of Education presided the ceremony.

A topical exhibition of the donation was held between 5th February and

9th March 2007, for details please refer <http://www.hksyu.edu.hk/lib/display/zhzcsb/index.htm>.



The mission of Shue Yan Library is to facilitate teaching and promote research in the College. Its main functions are to act as:

- A resource centre for learning, teaching and research, by the acquisition and management of print and non-print items;
- A learning centre for learning, teaching and research through the provision of reading areas, resources collections, electronic databases and reference services;
- A user education centre to familiarize users with the different means of information search and retrieval to enable them to become effective self-learners
- A service centre for providing users with effective, efficient and satisfying library services.

Future development

In the future, Hong Kong Shue Yan University Library will continue development. The Library will further enhance customer orientated services and emphasize user education. Web development is also the critical enhancement. Others are such as develop the implement e-journal management system, link resolver and federated search function etc. Thought the further consolidation of library resources, hopefully the usage of resources will be increased. Moreover, Hong Kong Shue Yan University Library will develop co-operation with local and oversea university libraries and amplify the philosophy of resource sharing.

Contact Information:

Library Home Page: <http://www.hksyu.edu.hk/lib>

Address: Shue Yan University Library Complex, 12 Wai Tsui Crescent, Braemar Hill Road, North Point, Hong Kong

Tel: (852) 2806-5113

Information Counter: (852) 2806-5114

Email: libinfo@hksyu.edu.hk



Our working team

Snapshots of the HK Library Education in IFLA's Guides

As one of the leading international organizations of library profession, [IFLA](#) was founded in 1927 to promote high standards of provision and delivery of library and information services on global perspective. Library education and professional development of personnel and students are one of the main areas IFLA puts great emphasis on. In order to facilitate international dialogue on professional qualification and education around the globe, IFLA, in its long eighty-year history, published two international guides on education programmes for library and information professions in 1985 and 1995 respectively. In the preface of the *International Guide to Library and Information Science Education* published in 1985, Hans-Peter Geh, the first Vice-President of IFLA, mentioned that the aim of this international reference work is to “offer an overview of the educational professional programs in the individual countries so that a basis for comparison and international recognition of professions will be possible”. Hong Kong has been mapped in the landscape of the global library education scene outlined in IFLA's guides since the first edition published in 1985 and subsequently in the second edition in 1995. In these two guides, one of the criteria for inclusion was that the library and information science programmes should be offered at tertiary level and above. And the Diploma Program in Librarianship at post-tertiary level offered by the Extra-Mural Studies Department of the University of Hong Kong was listed as the only professional course taught in Hong Kong at that time.

It is noteworthy to point out that there were other library courses offered to library assistants working in institutional libraries, and teachers and clerical workers in schools and other special libraries in Hong Kong ever since the first course in librarianship studies, Library Techniques I, was offered in 1960. For a fuller account of the library education and training in Hong Kong during 1960 ~ 1980, you can refer to Dr. L. B. Kan's article “Training in Librarianship in Hong Kong, 1960-69” and Priscilla Tso and Dr. L. B. Kan's article “Education and Training in Librarianship in Hong Kong: Twenty Years On” published in the *Journal of the Hong Kong Library Association*. Twelve years passed. Times changed and society changed. Library profession changed as well. IFLA decided to publish an up-to-date version of its unique reference resource this year. This twelve-year marked a major change not only in post-tertiary library education but also in the entire library education scene in Hong Kong. New programmes, being designed to meet the needs of different career groups, are now offered by more institutions. It is perfectly the right time to profile the leaping change of the library education scene in Hong Kong to the international audience. In response to IFLA's invitation, HKLA conducted a survey in four institutions in February this year. The four institutions currently offering library education programmes are Caritas Francis Hsu Evening College, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University and The University of Hong Kong. Among the 17 programmes offered, five are at post-tertiary level, namely:

University of Hong Kong:

- * Master of Science in Library and Information Management

University of Hong Kong. School of Professional and Continuing Education:

- * Diploma in Librarianship
- * Executive Certificate in Knowledge Management
- * Graduate Diploma of Applied Science (Library and Information Management)
- * Postgraduate Certificate in Archival Studies

And twelve are at certificate and tertiary levels as listed below:

Caritas Francis Hsu Evening College:

- * Certificate for School Library Assistant

The Chinese University of Hong Kong. School of Continuing & Professional Studies:

- * Advanced Diploma Programme in Library Studies
- * Advanced Professional Diploma Programme in Information Technology for Libraries
- * Diploma Programme for Library Assistants
- * Higher Diploma in Library and Information and Information Science

Hong Kong Baptist University. School of Continuing Education:

- * Diploma in Library Studies

University of Hong Kong:

- * Bachelor of Science in Information Management

University of Hong Kong. School of Professional and Continuing Education:

- * Bachelor of Applied Science (Library and Information Management)
- * Certificate for Library Assistants
- * Diploma in Library and Information Science
- * Diploma in Teacher Librarianship
- * Higher Diploma in Library and Information Studies

In addition to traditional and well structured library and information science programmes, new programmes on archival studies and knowledge management are set up to cater for the diverse demands in the career market. Apart from the long established part-time programmes, full-time programmes such as the Bachelor Science in Information Management programme offered by the University of Hong Kong are available to suit the study need of the students. It is very encouraging to see that, in the past twelve years, a plurality of programmes with different modes of study is offered to fulfill the emerging needs of the library and information profession.

Leo Ma

Education and Training Committee

¹ Fang, Josephine Riss and Paul Nauta. *International Guide to Library and Information Science Education: A Reference Source for Educational Programs in the Information Fields World-wide*. München, New York, etc.: K.G. Saur, 1985.

² Fang, Josephine Riss, Robert D. Stueart and Kulthida Tuamsuk. *World Guide to Library, Archive and Information Science Education*. 2nd revised and enlarged edition. München, New York, etc.: K.G. Saur, 1995.

³ Fang, Josephine Riss and Paul Nauta. *International Guide to Library and Information Science Education*. München, New York, etc.: K.G. Saur, 1985. p.7.

⁴ L.B. Kan. 'Training in Librarianship in Hong Kong, 1960-69' in *Journal of the Hong Kong Library Association*, No.1, 1969, pp.13-19.

⁵ Priscilla Tso and L.B. Kan. 'Education and Training in Librarianship in Hong Kong: Twenty Years On' in *Journal of the Hong Kong Library Association*, No.5, 1980, pp.11-20.

⁶ The new version is scheduled for publication in August 2007.

Forthcoming Events



Prelude

My 2007 new year almost started with an amazing overseas trip. On the 3rd of January, I took an early flight to Beijing where I got my transit to Copenhagen, the capital city of Denmark. It was another 10-hour flight and when I stepped on this elegant city, it was about 6:30 p.m. in Copenhagen time, but already dark there in this winter days. About 5°C, surprisingly it was not cold but quite rainy. Very luckily, my Danish friend Mr. Børge Sørensen picked me up at Kastrup International Airport and drove me direct to the hotel in the city centre. Nonetheless, after such sleepless flights of nearly 20 hours, I could do nothing else but immediately fell asleep on the bed after checking in... zzzz ...

Copenhagen, the “Trading Port”

It seemed that jet-lag was not a serious problem when you're flying west and I woke up rather early the next day. Actually, I was in an official trip to visit 3

cosmopolitan public library systems in the Scandinavia this time. Copenhagen was my first stop and I was going to stay about a week here. However, I lost my way in the streets in my first rainy morning in Copenhagen. It was nearly half an hour late when I finally found the building of Copenhagen Central Library, or the “Hovedbibliotek” in Danish. The library, which provided nearly all sorts of public library facilities and services, was housed in quite an old building in the city centre and it was the main library of the Copenhagen Public Library system.

Børge, the Chief Librarian there, and other library staff such as Lise and Susanne greeted me warmly and they even invited me to their New Year gathering tea party in the afternoon. In the coming days, they gave me very

detailed introductions to the library services in

Copenhagen. Besides, they also arranged some trips for me to visit several branch libraries there, including a combined school-public library in Vigerslev and an

old public library in the Danish City Hall (Rådhusbiblioteket, 1892) which collections were specialized in the history and culture of Copenhagen and

Denmark. Børge even took me to a city library in Malmö of the Øresund Region between Denmark and Sweden. What a great contrast of these newly erected and antique library buildings! That's very eye-opening indeed.



The Danish City Hall (1892). The collections of Rådhusbiblioteket are specialized in the history and culture of Copenhagen and Denmark.

Copenhagen had long been an

attractive old city since the medieval time. Børge told me that in Danish, “Køben” meant “Trading”, “Havn” meant a “Port” and therefore, “København” (Copenhagen) was herself a “Trading

Port”.

During the weekend, I got some leisure times to tour around this elegant “Trading Port”. That was a fine day but I had to grasp times as day time in the Nordic Countries during the winter season was extremely short, only about 6 hours a day from nine o'clock in the morning up till about half-past three in the afternoon. Anyway, this was a pleasant trip as I walked through the tourist area next to the new port, the famous Danish palace, the Royal Museum, the Frederikskirken Cathedral and the charming Little Mermaid!

Stockholm, Expecting a “New Main Library”

On the 9th of January, I bid farewell to my good friends in Copenhagen and took an one-hour flight to Stockholm, the capital city of Sweden. The

Arlanda Express was a very convenient railway

connection from Arlanda International Airport to the town centre as it took only about 20 minutes for the whole passage. The fare for the Express was high

but the taxi in the town centre was even more expensive ~ it was SEK89 (about HK95) for just a 5 minutes ride!

The Asplund

Library was a world famous library building after its architect Mr. Gunter Asplund.

Being the main library of the Stockholm Public

Library system, it had long been one of the landmarks of Stockholm since its opening in 1928. Built with orange-brown bricks, the unique cylindrical building (The “Rotunda”) was also the symbol of the library system. City Librarian Ms. Inga Lundén told me that they had just hosted an International competition in 2006



Copenhagen Central Library is housed in an old building.



The Asplund Library (1928). The famous “Rotunda” is the symbol of the Stockholm Public Library.

to invite architects from worldwide to tender them new plans of a main library building, hopefully to be erected next to the Asplund. They had received more than 1,100 plans so far and the adjudication panel was just working hard to assess the

candidates to select the best 5 who could enter another project competition in the second round. They invited me to visit Stockholm again to see the new main library building in 2013.

The International Library of Stockholm, which was located in the Annex building of the Asplund, stocked a collection of over 120 different languages. The establishment of this unique library was originated from the reading needs of immigrants from different nations into Sweden some 30 years ago. To manage the multi-lingual stock was not an easy task and they had to employ or at least, invite personnel of different

countries to contribute in their daily works. There I met Cindy, an immigrant from Guangdong Province of China to Sweden who then worked in the Chinese section of the library. Well, it's my first time to speak Putonghua in my trip. Anna, the Public Relations Librarian of the International Library, also arranged a tour for me in the next day to visit the Cultural Centre at the famous Sergels Square in the city centre where a Comic Library, a "Reading Lounge" Library and a Children's Playroom were located.

I stayed in Stockholm for another week and I did have some leisure times there that allowed me wonderful walking tours around. The National Museum, the Royal Swedish Palace, the Parliament House, the Viking ships at the coast as well as the buildings in Gamla Stan (Old City) were all charming. It was very lucky that my touring days were fine and not cold, it's all above zero. Nonetheless, I did hear some complaints from my friends there that they had a green Christmas as well as a "warm" winter this year. Frankly, I saw some snows in Stockholm during the night times but the snows were all gone next morning. May be they were right. How could a winter in the Scandinavia be without snow?

Helsinki, "Daughter of the Baltic Sea"

Helsinki, also known as the "Daughter of the Baltic Sea", was my last stop in this Scandinavian trip. I departed Stockholm in the afternoon of 15th January and it took me just a 45 minutes flight to arrive at Helsinki. Vantaa International Airport was just snowing heavily when I arrived there and it's the first time I stepped on a real thick snow in my trip. Oh! Wonderful!

Library Director Ms. Maija Berndtson and other colleagues such as Kristina, Jutta, Olli, etc., of Helsinki City Library system gave me a warm welcome the next day when they led me to Pasila Main

Library.

The library was opened in 1986, replacing the old Rikhardinkatu Main Library (1882)



Pasila Library (1986), the main library of Helsinki City Library system.

which was the first building in the Nordic countries that was specially designed for a public library. There I met another Chinese boy Yi-long who came from Guangdong and worked in the library. He spoke fluent Cantonese with me! Amazing! During the week I stayed in Helsinki, I visited quite a number of branch libraries of difference styles. The Library 10 was an incredible music and IT library specially

designed for the needs of the young adults. Could you ever imaging that there were live concerts or

dramas performed in the library premises during the opening hours? The Sello Library, which was located in the municipality of Espoo, was also such a young and energetic library for the youngsters. Other than the Rikhardinkatu Main Library, I also visited

another antique library building at Kallio (1912), which was famous from its fairy tales bibliographic databases and its children library services.

The Viikki library, which was getting famous from its contemporary library building design, was a combination of a university library and a public library, serving the needs of both categories of readers.

Itäkeskus Library was located in the biggest shopping mall in Helsinki and it had its own distinctive features in providing children library services.

During the few weeks I stayed in the Scandinavia, I came to realize that I did not have much language problems, but I did have some reading problems. Most people there spoke English, though this was not their official language. It was only once when I spoke with an old maiden in Copenhagen that I did not hear English. I could not understand what she was talking about and so I understand what she meant. She told me that she did not speak English! Clever? Well, reading was a real problem. The situation was not so bad in Copenhagen and Stockholm as sometimes you could guess what the words there meant. For example, when they talked about "Bibliotek", you might immediately understand that they meant "Library" as you might hear something like "Bibliothèque" in French or German before and then you might also know that "Stadsbibliotek" might mean a "City Library". But in Helsinki, the Finnish language was a totally different one as they were originated from the Eastern European language branch and sounded more in Estonian or Hungarian styles. Perhaps you could never imagine that "Helsingin Kaupunginkirjasto" actually meant the same thing as above: it was "Helsinki City Library"!

Out of these, Helsinki was an extremely charming city of harmony and tranquility. Touring here in the city was a very pleasant experience. The magnificent Tuomiokirkko (Senate Cathedral), the beautiful National Museum of Finland, the Ateneum (National Museum of Arts), the Finlandia, the National Opera House

and the Kiasma (Museum of Contemporary Art) were all fascinating architectures. The Sibelius Garden and the tranquil Gulf of Finland in turn provided you with peaceful moods and harmonious feelings. Wow! Mr. Baltic Sea did have a beautiful daughter.

The Nordic Libraries

Before I departed to the Scandinavia, people here were quite curious and did have some imaginations how libraries there would look like. "They must be very advanced in technology", some of them said.

Yes, they are great! Normally, the Nordic countries are always in the top ranks amongst the world in terms of Information Technologies development. Yet, I have to say Hong Kong is also an International city that the IT here, frankly, is not lagging behind. Libraries here and there are both using similar technologies in running our business. "Libraries without Walls" and remote e-libraries services round the clock are both our

developing trends. Our beliefs, our missions in providing free public libraries services are almost the same and then, we are both providing similar kinds of services. What are different actually are the

environments, the social consciousness as well as the cultures of readership here and there that substantively lead to differences in some services. For instance, all public libraries there provide home delivery services to the aged, the sick, the handicaps and whoever in need. However, that may not be practical to Hong Kong situation due to its own social factors, say, the enormous population size or different social security policies. Population size and limited resources do create some problems in providing public services in Hong Kong. Public libraries in the Nordic countries obviously can provide better resources shares to readers as the budget, collection and circulation rates per capita, etc. are generally much higher than that in Hong Kong. Besides, readers in the Nordic countries normally have more leisure capacities in using library services.



The Rikhardinkatu Library (1882) has long been the old main library of Helsinki City Library system for over a Century.

In most occasions, they will regard a library as a meeting place of social gathering and they can easily accept all kinds of cultural functions in the library, say, even popular concerts or dramas during library opening hours. That's totally different readership cultures from Hong Kong.

Another interesting thing to observe is that readers in these libraries are generally social conscious and very self-disciplined in using public facilities. They know what they should do and should not do in the library. Different kinds of readers are sharing the public

resources harmonious, with seldom confrontations or complaints. Perhaps, local readers can learn something from these overseas experiences:- Relax, and sometimes be considerate.

Back to Hong Kong

I returned to Hong Kong in the evening of 21st

January after another sleepless 24-hour flight. The pleasant and unforgettable trip came to a perfect full stop in the smiling faces of my family and my kids who welcomed their daddy back in Hong Kong International Airport. By the way, I had to express my hearty thankfulness to all my friends in the Scandinavia. Without their helps and

guidance, the trip would never be such a successful as well as memorable one. Say "Tuck" ("thank you" in Danish and Swedish to my friends there) and "Kiitos" ("thank you" in Finnish to my friends in Helsinki)!

Just a few days when I came back to Hong Kong, my friends there sent me E-mails telling me that finally, winter came to their countries. The temperature dropped to negative twenties and they had many snows then. Congratulations! How come there's no snow in Scandinavian countries in winter? I really miss it.

People in the News

Steve O'Connor

Steve O'Connor has just taken up his appointment as the University Librarian at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University. He comes to Hong Kong after eight years at the helm of Caval, the collaborative library company which has assisted libraries across a wide range of services. (www.caval.edu.au) and a previous nine years as the University Librarian at the University of Technology, Sydney.



Steve's history has been in academic libraries for the most part but his broadest experience is with Caval, working with all sectors of libraries. Caval worked especially with special and public libraries, apart from the academic libraries. Caval ran businesses solely for the benefit of libraries. Caval could offer services in cataloguing in over seventy languages. This cataloguing could be done from Melbourne in Chicago in any language. Caval also offered training programs especially tailored for information professionals across Asia and Australasia. Caval also ran benchmarking services and preservation and storage solutions for libraries. The company was not a library nor was it a library vendor. It was a collaborative entity on the spectrum somewhere in between.

Steve is excited about the prospects ahead for the POLYU library. He plans to use scenario planning techniques to place the library in the best position to work and develop its services into the future. He looks forward to meeting so many of his colleagues here in Hong Kong. He also thanks the many colleagues who have already made him so welcome into another community of our library profession.

Events

Seminar: Library 2.0: Working Towards Next Generation Systems.

The seminar was given by professor S. Blair Kauffman, law librarian and professor of Law, Lillian Goldman Law Library, Yale Law School at the Hong Kong Central Library on 10 January.

Professor Kauffman has been involved in the planning and execution of a number of library building and renovation projects and frequently consults on this topic. He presented on new directions in library design, services and systems such as incoming feeds, PDA searching, plug-ins and other examples from Yale University and the field of legal information resources.



Visits to Hang Seng School of Commerce Library and Chi Lin Nunnery Library

18 librarians visited the Hang Seng School of Commerce Library and Chi Lin Nunnery Library on 24 March 2007.

Hang Seng School of Commerce Library

The library is devoted first and foremost to the educational objectives and academic ends of the School through the provision of a high quality library-information service. The

library has a floor area of 5,400 sq.ft. and currently there are 31,000 volumes of books. All items are classified by Dewey Decimal Classification System. It serves 1200 students and all teaching staffs.

Students access learning, latest news and announcements of the campus and course materials through Online Teaching and Learning System (OTL). One big feature is that the whole library has gone wireless.



Miss Wong, the librarian of Hang Seng School of Commerce Library & our President.

Chi Lin Nunnery Library

The library was established in 1982 and has started automation since 1996. The library has a floor area of 10,000 sq.ft.. It houses a total of 80,000 volumes which are mostly obtained by donation. The greater part of the library collection is composed of Chinese Tripitaka, rare books, scriptures on Buddhist Studies, Buddhist Literature, Buddhist Architecture, Philosophy and Arts. The main users are Chi Lin nuns, staff and students taking Buddhist studies. It is open to the public. The vision of the library is to promote the circulation to more readers through online co-operation with other Buddhist organizations.



Entrance of Chi Lin Nunnery

BOOK LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF "LIBRARY ENGLISH" (圖書館英語) AND SEMINAR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MACAU LIBRARY ON 24th APRIL 2007

The University of Macau Library is organizing a book launching ceremony of "Library English: Commonly Used Expressions in the Library" and afterwards a seminar on "How to Improve Library Staff's Service Quality" in the afternoon of 24th April 2007.

The book, a joint publication of the University of Macau and Shanghai Jiaotong University Libraries, was published as a contribution to the 25th Anniversary of the University of Macau at the end of 2006. The purpose of the book is for it to be used as a basic text for teaching front-line staff how to use simple, but correct and precise, English to help their English-speaking users. The book contains 16 parts, which cover a wide area of what a library assistant needs to know in taking of the library users. After the book launching ceremony, a seminar on "How to Improve Library Staff's Service Quality" will be held. Speaking in the seminar will be experienced librarians from the region.

The launching ceremony will begin at 3:00 pm and the whole event including the seminar will finish at about 5:30 pm. If you are interested in participating in this event or if you have any enquiry, please email Dr. Helen Ieong of the University of Macau Library at HelenHKI@umac.mo. The Chinese University of Hong Kong Press is the agent for this title in Hong Kong, and the book should be available from them after 24th April 2007.

"READ" Poster Campaign

"READ" Poster Campaign, a project initiated and co-organized by the Hong Kong Library Association and Hong Kong Education City Ltd, to promote reading and cultivate a strong reading culture in Hong Kong, will be launched on 21st April 2007.

This first time venture will take place at 2: 30 p.m. at the Lok Sin Tong Yu Kan Hing Secondary School as one of the core activities to celebrate the 4th World Book Day in Hong Kong. Ms. Julia Chan, the Medical Librarian of the University of Hong Kong Libraries and former HKLA President, will present a session on the nature of work of the academic librarians as well as reading activities and Reading Clubs in various academic institutions in Hong Kong.

Three Hong Kong celebrities - Prof. Joseph Sung, Mrs. Rita Fan and Mr. Shih Wing Ching - have been invited to pose with their favourite literary works, to illustrate that successful people READ and "connect" with books, and to encourage the habit of reading in others.

For details, please refer to the website: <http://www.hkreadingcity.net/>

All about conferences

Fiesole Conference

28 Interesting Thoughts Gleaned from the 9th Fiesole Collection Development Retreat

University of Hong Kong April 13-14, 2007

This year the Fiesole Conference focused on three themes the following three themes but the speakers and comments along the way dealt with a great many more topics:

(1) The significance of language upon publishing? (2) The Open Access Movement and its consequences, and (3) the effects upon libraries of efforts like Google to digitize millions of e-books and give the world free access. Among the many observations/questions heard were the following:

1. A basic Open Access dictum is that universities shouldn't have to pay for research twice. Publishers don't disagree, but suggest that universities have only paid for the research and the rough draft at most – not the edited articles.

2. Electronic journal backfiles are being used and are changing the nature of research.

3. Google aggregates content from people who don't know each other. Why is it librarians fight to keep their resources separate?

4. In the past it was realistic to think that researchers would mold their workflows around how libraries presented their information resources. Now it is just the opposite. Libraries need to figure out how to get their expensive resources into researcher workflows.

5. Journal impact factors are important measures of success for scholars in Asia.

6. Librarians should see themselves as curators of ideas, not books, and free ourselves from our buildings/book stacks/etc.

7. Libraries are doing a lot of digitization and paying for even more being commercially published, but these resources are not located where our students are looking.

8. Libraries have evolved cataloguing systems involving standards like MARC, but what should we do about the information on the web?

9. Libraries have much more information than anyone uses. Can this costly model continue in the face of free information on the web?

10. Most library staff costs are print resources oriented while most content costs and perhaps content uses are electronic. Can/should this continue?

11. Most scholars like personal f2f contact with colleagues – they trust them more for information than what can be found in libraries or on the web.

12. Open Access e-journal embargoes cannot be one size fits all – different literatures have a different shelf lives.

13. Open access to electronic information has happened in a somewhat novel way in Japan and the UK since their governments pay all or a major part of the costs associated with the purchase of electronic collections. Access isn't universal but quite broad.

14. Overlap between library collections is highly overestimated.

15. Previously, publishers and vendors sold libraries information and the libraries were left with the job of organizing, sharing, and preserving it. Is what we are doing with electronic information today meaningful or simply rearranging Titanic deck chairs?

16. Publishers perhaps have a choice: sell ebooks to librarians by the thousands or via Google to millions.

17. Publishers require money to publish. If OA triumphs, the money being spent by libraries to pay publishers will move to the university units paying the OA charges.

18. Publishers who want to sell ebooks like they sold printed books may also be Titanic deck chair shufflers.

19. Readers can find more information with less effort using Google than by using our costly libraries.

20. Some publishers are putting all of their older materials into Google's Book Search and believe it will give them a whole new revenue stream.

21. The problem of English dominating scholarship isn't the main issue, it is too many people are mono lingual.

22. The problems associated with the lack of library funds are legion, yet the amount of money, compared to the total funding spent on higher education, is miniscule. Should we focus on OA or solving the main problem?

23. We (everyone) had censors in the past, we have them now, and we will have them in the future.

24. What would happen if libraries could make all of their



electronic content as easy to find as the world of information is via Google? Real information revolution?

25. While Asia is now a net consumer of research, the numbers suggest that this will not always be the case. China particularly, will have more scholars, more research funding, and more research results than any other nation within a decade or two.
26. While English language scholarship substitutes for local scholarship, readers would still like it in their own language.
27. While the dominance of English is a reality for STM, it isn't for the humanities and the social sciences.
28. Who is going to take the long term curatorial responsibility for all of this electronic information?

The Academic Librarian: Dinosaur or Phoenix? Die or Fly in Library Change Management

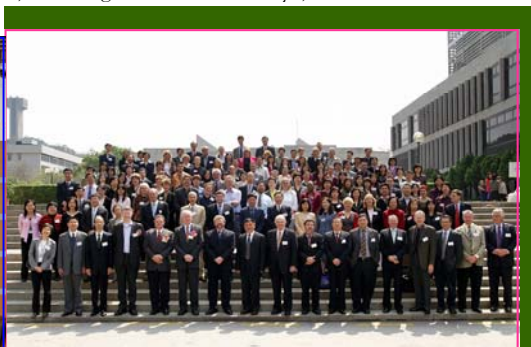
Hosted by the University Library System of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, the international conference "The academic librarian: dinosaur or phoenix? Die or fly in library change management" was held on April 11-12, 2007 in Cho Yiu Hall of CUHK. Focusing on change management, the conference examined the challenges and opportunities faced by academic library personnel in an ever faster moving and constantly evolving academic and technological working environment. It particularly addressed general pressures on academic libraries, the best way to respond to those pressures, to sustain those responses, and to secure the right staff to implement the right changes. Its four main themes are:

1. Academic library change management
2. Organizational preparation and the changing workplace
3. The librarian and the Faculty, student body, and the general public
4. The right staff?

This two-day bilingual conference attracted well over 170 librarians and scholars from around the world, spreading over local Hong Kong, the neighboring regions of Macau, Taiwan, China, Singapore, Thailand, India, Indonesia, Brunel Darussalam and the more distant countries of Australia, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, the United States, Canada, Italy and Zambia. This rich blend of professionals and scholars brought to the conference diverse backgrounds, views and perspectives, leading to hot debates and fruitful discussions, though the time is always short for this.

The conference was opened with four enlightening and insightful keynote speeches delivered by the renowned Professor Dai Longji, University Librarian of the Peking University, Mr. Brian Schottlaender, University Librarian of the University of California, San Diego, Mr. Lorcan Dempsey, Vice President and Chief Strategist of OCLC and Professor Peter Brophy, Professor of Information Management of Manchester Metropolitan University. They deliberated on the major challenges affecting the future development of libraries, evaluated the qualities of future library staff to meet those challenges, analyzed the changing workflow of users and librarians in the network environment and envisioned the emerging new roles of academic librarians. Valuable opinions and comments were shared in six concurrent sessions in which 39 thought-provoking papers on a broad spectrum of topics were presented. Another conference, the [9th Fiesole Collection Development Retreat Preconference](#) was held as one of the current sessions of the Conference.

All the full papers, presentations and a selection of photos as a snapshot of the social and academic exchanges of attendees are now available in the Conference web site: <http://www.lib.cuhk.edu.hk/conference/alp2007/index.htm>. (Louisa Lam, Medical Librarian, Li Ping Medical Library, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)



Call for applications for Heleni Linton Bursary

The HKLA is now inviting applications for the Heleni Linton Bursary Award from members who are full or part-time students of library and information science to assist in their studies. For example, the Bursary might help with research costs, conference attendance, short sabbaticals, course fees and the like.

The Heleni Linton Memorial Account was established in commemoration of Heleni Linton, an outstanding librarian who was tragically killed in a plane crash in May 1991. Applications for the Bursary, which amounts to HK\$5,000, will be assessed by considering the potential applicability and contribution of the proposal to library and information science in our region and the likely impact of the Bursary on the career of the applicant.

Please access <http://www.hkla.org/heleni.html> for full details of the Bursary. A downloadable application form is available at <http://www.hkla.org/pdf/helefora.PDF>.

Deadline for application is **Aug 31, 2007**.

For enquiries or if you need an application form by mail, please contact the Honorary Secretary by phone: 2948-6680 fax: 2948-8594 email: hkla@hkla.org.hk

If you haven't renewed your membership, please act now! Click this [link](#) to download the form and send your completed form together with your cheque (made payable to Hong Kong Library

Association) to our Hon.

Secretary, Hong Kong Library Association, P.O. Box 10095, G.P.O., Hong Kong.

Thank you for your continuous support!

香港圖書館協會
HONG KONG LIBRARY ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 10095, HONG KONG
<http://www.hkla.org>

Membership Card

Name :
Number :
Expires :

本協會致力爭取香港圖書館及資訊服務從業員的權益，並為推動香港圖書館及資訊服務界的發展而努力。

The Association aims to unite and promote the interests of all people working in libraries and information services, and to encourage the development of services promoting the provision of library and information services in Hong Kong.

Editor

Anita Chan

Contributors

Mr Michael Robinson
Steve O'Connor
Louisa Lam
Paul W.T. Poon
Wong, Irene Suk Mei
Li Yiu On
Chow Wai Ming Joe
Jim Chang
Leo Ma
Annabelle Pau
Anita Chan

MAY

2007

ISSUE

Email: Please contact us at : hkla@hkla.org
Address: P.O. Box 10095, General Post Office, HK
Web site: <http://www.hkla.org>
Newsletter Archive: <http://www.hkla.org/publications>

