



HKLA Newsletter

Hong Kong Library Association

AGM 2008

The 50th Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong Library Association was held on 11th December 2008, at the Prince Hotel, Tsimshatsui. Mr. Robinson, the President of the Association, made a summary report on the various activities in 2008 with highlights on the 50th Anniversary Conference, Careers and Education Forum, study tours to libraries in both Nanjing and Macao and Zhuhai, seminars, visits, the launch of a new scholarship, the Year Book, and hosting a strategic planning workshop with the Vietnamese and Lao Library Associations.

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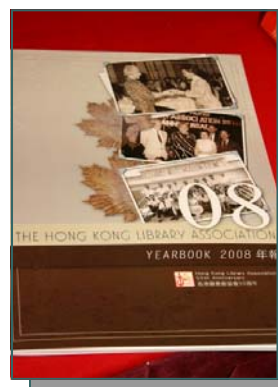
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The new President, Mr. Jim Chang and six new Council Members, Mr. Sidney Cheng, Ms. Iris Yuen, Mr. Joe Chow, Ms. Melinda Lee, Ms. Eva Tang and Ms. Karen Ip, were elected.



The keynote speech of AGM was given by Dr. Joseph Ting Sun-pao. Dr. Joseph Ting Sun-pao is the former Chief Curator of the Hong Kong Museum of History having just retired recently. Dr. Ting has worked in the Hong Kong Museum of Art for 8 years and in the Hong Kong Museum of History for 18 years. He is recognized as the leading expert on local history of Hong Kong and its neighboring regions, and has written extensively on related topics. The topic of Dr. Ting's speech was "My acquaintance with Libraries and Librarians". He shared with us some of the most memorable experience with different librarians he came across in his life. Dr. Ting then presented the H.A Rydings Awards and certificates to graduates of the Certificate Courses for Library Assistants.



Two professional librarians, Mr. Kevin Leung and Ms. Venia Mak, fulfilled the requirements for the HKLA Fellowship. Mr. Robinson conferred the honour to Mr. Leung and Ms. Mak in the recognition of their long-term commitment to library services in Hong Kong.



The highlight of the AGM was the slide show recapped rememberable photos and activities of the past 50 years. The AGM then concluded with the annual dinner, enjoyed by over 90 participants.



(Venia Mak, Honorary Secretary)

Features

Another Year of Success:

The HKLA Library Education and Career Forum 2008

Being one of the major annual events, HKLA Library Education and Career Forum 2008 was successfully held on August 16, 2008. Co-organized by the HKLA and Hong Kong Public Libraries, the forum was convened at the Lecture Theatre of the Hong Kong Central Library. A total of 115 participants attended the first section on library education while 93 participants attended the second section on career information. This year, eight distinguished speakers delivered their presentations on education programmes and career highlights in the library and information sectors.

After giving a very warm welcome to the speakers and audience, Mr. Michael Robinson, President of HKLA, reminded the participants that the HKLA 50th Anniversary Conference would be held on November 4-5, 2008 and encouraged all of them to join this important anniversary event. After the opening session, the first part of the forum on library education programmes was started. Four speakers were invited to introduce library programmes offered in Hong Kong and in the region. They were Mr. Alex Chui (CUHK SCS), Dr. Lawrence Tam (HKU SPACE), Dr. Sam Chu (Faculty of Education, HKU) and Prof. Cao Shu-jin (Vice President of the Library Society of Guangdong Province). It was the very first time for the Library Society of Guangdong Province to speak at the forum on the library education programmes offered by institutions in Guangdong Province. In this session, more than 25 library education programmes held locally and in Guangdong Province were introduced to the audience. These programmes cover various levels of study ranging from certificate, diploma, bachelor, master to doctorate degrees.



From left:
Dr. Lawrence Tam,
Dr. Sam Chu, Mr.
Michael Robinson,
Mr. Alex Chui,
Prof. Cao Shu-jin

After a short break, the second session of the forum on careers in various types of libraries was started. Mr. Peter Sidorko (Deputy Librarian of the University of Hong Kong Libraries), Ms May Chow (Senior Librarian (Southern) of the Hong Kong Public Libraries), Mr. Luk Hok Hei (Chairman of the Hong Kong Teacher-Librarians' Association) and Ms Blanche Lee (Librarian of Ming Pao), representing academic libraries, public libraries, school libraries and special libraries respectively, talked about the work nature and job opportunities in their libraries.



From left: Mr. Luk Hok Hei, Ms Blanche Lee, Mr. Michael Robinson, Mr. Peter Sidorko, Ms May Chow

The response from the audience was very encouraging. During the Q&A sessions, the speakers received a number of enquires asking for their advice on professional development in general and further details of their presentations in particular. At the end of the forum, 27 questionnaires were collected. The presentation materials of the speakers and snapshots of the forum can be found on the HKLA web pages <http://www.hkla.org/content/view/278/69/> and <http://www.hkla.org/content/view/277/69/> respectively.

(Leo Ma, Education and Training Committee)

Congratulations!!

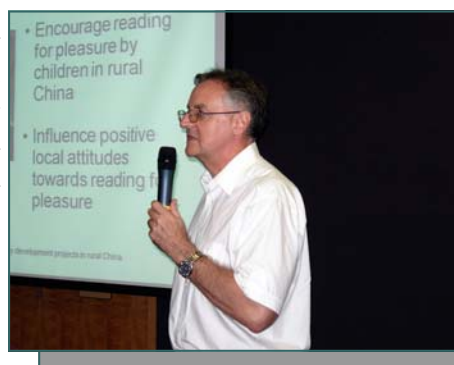
Seminar on philanthropic library development in rural China

HKLA organized a seminar regarding “philanthropic library development in rural China” on June 10, 2008. We invited 3 guest speakers who had extensive experience in Chinese school and library development projects. The first presenter was Prof. Faith Chao, the President of the Evergreen Education Foundation. The Foundation aimed to help rural China for establishing modern libraries for the students, teachers and librarians.



Another similar organization, the Education Foundation of the Federation of the Alumni Associations of the CUHK, was then introduced by Ms Jasminia Cheung. Its “Xiao Bian Dan” project included building schools, training teachers, providing books and teaching materials in the rural areas in Mainland.

Finally, Mr. Peter Warning from the HKU Faculty of Education shared with us the Chen Yat-sen Family Foundation reading projects which were for encouraging reading for pleasure by children in rural China. Its core activities included providing engaging books for young readers and introducing reading & related activities to stimulate interest in reading.



Totally 26 attendees joined the seminars and we all were deeply touched by 3 speakers' enthusiasm and hard work on helping poor young people in China. Many librarians showed high interest on supporting these projects and would like to contact these Foundations further for details.



(Becky Lee, Programme Coordinator)

Supporting Research Work: The HKLA Swets Scholarship

After planning for almost two years, the HKLA Swets Scholarship, a newly established student scholarship programme, was launched in 2008. This is an annual scholarship of HKD10,000, to be awarded by the Hong Kong Library Association, using funds donated by Swets to support student research projects in Hong Kong. The Scholarship will be awarded to a candidate undertaking a course in librarianship or information management or related fields in Hong Kong. The award will be to support an outstanding proposal (or work in progress) for a research project relating to library and information services. The Scholarship is a cash award which can be used to support research cost, or other costs as deemed appropriate by the recipient and the HKLA.

The Call for Applications for the HKLA Swets Scholarship was sent to HKLA members on June 13, 2008. A Selection Panel was subsequently formed to evaluate submissions from candidates. The membership of the Selection Panel included three Council Members, namely Mr. Jim Chang (Chairman), Ms Deborah Tse, and Mr. Leo Ma, and Mr. Frans van Ette, Regional Director of Swets. Mr. Van Ette participated in the selection process through a real time tele-conference arrangement.

The application was closed on September 15, 2008 and only one application submitted by Ms Eliot Liu Zhaohua was received. Ms Liu is currently an MPhil. student of the City University of Hong Kong and a Research Assistant in Hong Kong Cyberport Management Co. Ltd. The topic of her research is Chinese MPEG-21 Rights Expression Language: Enhancing Digital Rights Management in University Libraries in Hong Kong. The project aims at proposing a Chinese metadata standard based on MPEG-21 Rights Expression Language (REL) within the context of the universities libraries in Hong Kong.

A selection interview was set up on October 10, 2008 at the Hong Kong Central Library. Ms Liu's application was assessed according to the following factors:

1. The quality of the proposal, including rationale, methodology, outcomes and presentation.
2. The potential applicability and contribution of the proposed research to library and information services in the region.
3. The originality of the topic or field of the proposed research.
4. The likely impact of the Scholarship in providing support and assistance to the applicant.
5. The excellence in the presentation

During the interview, Ms Liu well presented her research project to the Selection Panel. She precisely explained her work about the REL under the research project and its possible impacts in enhancing the Digital Rights Management in digital libraries. The Selection Panel agreed unanimously to select Ms Liu as the recipient of the award this year. The Scholarship was presented to Ms Liu on 4th November, 2008 at the Conference Dinner of the HKLA 50th Anniversary Conference.



Mr. Scott Moseley (Swets Business Development Manager) and Ms Eliot Liu Zhaohua at the scholarship presentation ceremony on 4th November, 2008.

(Leo Ma, Education and Training Committee)

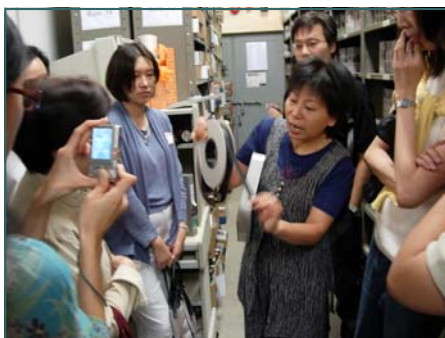
Library Visit

Visit to RTHK

On October 18, 2008, 21 members visited 2 libraries in The Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK). Mr. Lam Kwok To of Music & Sound Archive Library gave us a warm welcome and then guided the members to visit the Broadcasting House as well as his Library. The collection of music & sound included the on-shelf commercial music and RTHK's broadcasting programmes. Two large sets of compact shelves stored the audio materials which were in various different formats such as audiotapes, 45s & 78s albums, CDs, ... etc. They were well organized and managed by a tailor-made system for online searching and reservation. Mr. Lam also shared with us the secret old skill of how the disc-jockey could precisely "forecast" how long the song would start after playing the album.



The second stop was the Film and Videotape Library which were keeping the visual materials. Ms. Vanessa showed us a huge and cold storage space for the different sizes of videotapes and DVDs. The collection were recording all RTHK's TV programmes as well as the videos in various topics. To retrieving them in a systematic way, a specific cataloguing and indexing system was used for describing and accessing the materials. All members found this trip fruitful by knowing more about these valuable archival collections of HK's local culture and production.





(Becky Lee, Programme Coordinator)

Renew Your Membership Act Now!

If you haven't renewed your membership, please act now! Check the link (<http://www.hkla.org/content/view/45/51/>) 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!

Zhuhai-Macau Study Trip

The last trip in 2008 was to visit the libraries and cultural sites in Zhuhai and Macau. It was a short 2-day trip from 28th to 29th of November. A group of 10 members took an early ferry to Zhuhai and reached our 1st stop, Zhuhai Library. The Librarian, Mr. Wang Biao (his formal title is "Director/Associate Professor") toured us in the new, big, modern 6-floor building. Collections of Chinese Language, Western Language, Serial, Zhuhai Literature, Archives and Reference materials were put in separate areas. There equipped internet workstations, audio-visual room, electronic resources room, training rooms, lecture theatre and exhibition corridor for all the public in Zhuhai.



Zhuhai Library—Entrance



Zhuhai Library—Introduction



Zhuhai Library—Group



Zhuhai Library—Serial

We then visited Beijing Normal University (Zhuhai) Library. Mr. Zhang Xiao Feng, the Deputy Librarian, gave us a warm welcome and briefed us the background and operation of the Library. To support the teaching and study in 15 faculties of the University, the Library collected more than 700,000 items of different languages and formats. Our President, Mr. Michael Robinson, then shared the experience of Hong Kong's librarians with the professionals in Zhuhai. We all were impressed by the beautiful campus and open spaces for the students.



Beijing Normal—Meeting



Beijing Normal—Campus



Beijing Normal—Selfstudy



Beijing Normal—Group

After finishing the visits in Zhuhai, we reached Macau by passing through the “Gongbei Customs”. To visit more than 20 World Heritage sites, staying 24 hours in Macau was definitely not enough. We made use of every minute to explore 9 of them including St. Augustine’s Square, Sir Robert Ho Tung Library, St. Augustine’s Church, Senado Square, Holy House of Mercy, Cathedral, Lou Kau Mansion, St. Dominic’s Church and A-Ma Temple. In particular, we grasped the opportunity of visiting the archive collection of Sir Robert Ho Tung Library.



Holy House of Mercy



St. Dominic’s Church

It was a condensed close look into Macau’s history, culture, arts and architecture.



Lou Kau Mansion



A-Ma Temple

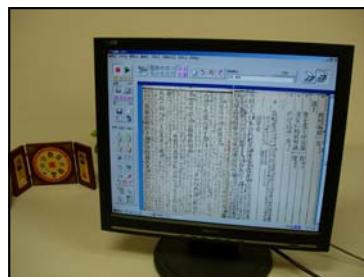


Sir Robert Ho Tung Library

Our last stop was The University of Macau Library. Mr. Billy Leung, from Reference & Library Instruction Unit, gave us detailed introductions to different collections, particularly the American Corner. The increased budget allocated for the electronic collection told us that the Library took online service seriously. The Document Center served as a depository library for many international organizations e.g. EU, UN, WTO, ... etc. to support the teaching, learning and research. It was also our pleasure to be granted a chance of visiting the Rare Book Collection Room which was not only storing historical materials but also doing digitalization on them. The experts from Hong Kong shared the experience on preserving and digitizing rare materials. We spent a very good time there and had to deeply thank Billy, Molly and all the colleagues in Macau Library Association for their extraordinary hospitality to our group. We really appreciated!



UOML—Entrance



UOML—Digitization



UOML—Document Center



UOML—Rare Book Collection



UOML—Group

(Becky Lee, Programme Coordinator)

Events

Special Libraries Christmas Party

A total of thirty participants got together on Dec 3 for the Christmas Party. Despite there were still three weeks to Christmas, the party was filled with festivity as participants greeted each other warmly after a year of hard work and exchanged gifts. Participants were presented with a quick review of the activities organized for them during the year and were introduced to Eva Tang, the upcoming Special Libraries Liaison Officer for 2009-2010 .



DECEMBER

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2008

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