Seminar on Chinese Information Processing in Libraries

The Library will be hosting an international Seminar on Chinese Information Processing in Libraries from 22-23 January, 1998.

Libraries with collections of Chinese materials have for years faced unique challenges in providing information access. Despite rapid advances in information science, and increasing technology convergence, little progress has been made on fundamental issues affecting Chinese information processing.

In fact, the increasing globalization of information, most notably represented by

Art Exhibition: Gems of Contemporary Chinese Prints

An exhibition of contemporary Chinese prints (banhua 版画) will open in the Library Gallery on 20 November 1997.

The earliest recorded print in the world is a woodcut of the title page of the Diamond Sutra in 868 A.D. of Tang Dynasty. While engraving was initially used only for the reproduction of religious and folk paintings in China, it eventually became a medium of artistic expression in its own right. However, this fundamental shift did not occur in its native land. It was Lu Xun, the renowned writer, who re-introduced the modern print to China in the 1920s while advocating arts that “confront reality 直面人生”. Lu Xun played a critical role in promoting the Chinese New Print (新印版画).

The prints in this exhibition are selected works by the faculty of the Department of Print, China National Academy of Fine Arts, one of the birthplaces of the Chinese New Print. This exhibition in a way records the development of this new art form in China during the past fifty years.

Collection Spotlight: 中文館藏簡介

本館中文館藏約11萬冊，大約是全部館藏的四分之一。因本校以“科技”為名，令人直
覺地認為本館的館藏必以科技書籍為主。其實不然，本館的中文館藏偏重於文、史、哲三
面。就以被譽為世界上範圍最廣、起點時間最
長的歷史百科全書《四庫全書》為例，本館除
了收有1,501冊全書外，更收集了相關的《四庫
全書荟要》、《續修四庫全書》、《四庫備
要》、《四庫叢刊》的初編及續編等。這幾套
書幾乎囊括清高宗以前全部重要的中文著作。

史地方面的藏書，除了廿五史，各代《紀
事本末》及《通典》、《通志》與《通考》
外，如《明清檔案》、《清代諫記叢刊》、
《清代起居注冊》等均在館藏中。較近代的則
INTERNET: Netscape Composer

Creating Web pages can be quite complicated. There are many tools which let you make pages without having to learn the HTML tags, but most either won’t handle basic things like tables, or are too difficult to use. Netscape's new web page authoring program, Composer, is easy to learn and more than adequate to the needs of most users.

Composer's most fundamental feature is its what-you-see-is-what-you-get (WYSIWYG) environment. All you have to do is type and format the text just like you do in your word processor, and the program will take care of the rest. Select some text and click on the bold or italics button, and Composer will insert the proper codes in the document.

You can do the same with fonts, but if you specify a font which is not available on the computer being used to view the page, the user might have trouble reading the page. If you specify that a particular Chinese font be used, and the user does not have that font, they will have to manually disable your settings in order to read the page at all—and they might consider this too much trouble to go through! So consider leaving this choice to the viewer.

Composer is a different program than Navigator (the browser part of the Communicator package). If you want Chinese in your page, you must set Composer's encoding preferences to Chinese. Otherwise your Chinese characters will be turned into garbage. Composer will also insert the following tag into the top of the page: <META HTTP-EQUIV="Content-Type" CONTENT="text/html; charset=gb2312"> The 'charset' will be gb2312 if your encoding is set to Simplified Chinese.

Composer's support for the creation and editing of tables is excellent. It also has a pretty good spelling checker for English language material. And in the Windows version of Composer, you can 'drag-and-drop' bitmap graphics (.bmp) onto a page, and they will be automatically converted into jpeg format.

So, go ahead and experiment. You can start with a blank page, use one of the templates provided, or even use a page creation wizard to walk you through the steps. If you need more detailed assistance, choose 'help contents' under the Help menu in the Composer program - there's LOTS of information available. Just remember that this is supposed to be fun, so enjoy!

MEDIA: Microform's Hidden Treasure (Part 3)

In this third installment of the Microforms’ Treasures, we encourage you to explore two business-oriented resources, along with a huge collection of documents from academic institutions worldwide.

LCAR (Film HF5263.A3 L35)
Most Library patrons are aware that copies of Hong Kong listed companies' current annual reports are kept in Open Reserve on 1/F. Fewer know that the older issues are kept on microfilm in the Microforms section on LG/1. The LCAR (Listed Companies Annual Reports) includes those published by companies in Hong Kong. The earliest is the 1946 report issued by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

The Library also collects microfilm of LCPP (Listed Companies prospectus – Film F5263.A3 L36); and DCAR (Delisted Companies Annual Reports – Film HF5263.A3 D35).

Indexes kept at the Reference counter and on shelves in the Microforms section help users in locating the reports they need.

SEC File (Fiche HG4028.B2 C74)
The SEC file contains copies of all the reports filed by listed companies with the
United States Securities and Exchange Commission. These include the 10 K's (Annual Report to SEC), the 10 Q's (Quarterly Reports to SEC), Proxy Statements, Prospectuses, Statistical Summaries, and many more.

HKUST Library’s collection begins with reports from 1978 and continues to the present. Paper indexes are available in the Microforms and Media Section as well as in the Reference Collection.

**College Catalog Collection** (Fiche L900.C65)

The Library keeps the two most recent years of this annual microfiche collection of international college and university catalogs and calendars.

United States and Canadian institutions form the bulk of the collection. However, other countries, including Australia, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Japan, South Africa and the United Kingdom are well covered.

Paper indexes are shelved in the Microforms and Media section.

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**WEB: New Resources**

Two recent additions to the Library’s online ‘collection’ deserve special attention.

**Ei Village (Engineering Information Village)**

This site is designed around the concept of a “Village”, including the town hall, business + financial district, research & industrial park, and others. It also has several helpful options to guide you through the Village.

Do you have a technical question that has stumped you? Try the ‘Ask Your Peers’. This links you to Usenet newsgroups and listserv discussion groups for engineers. You may post your question in one or more of these discussion groups and receive responses from around the world.

If your question cannot be answered by ‘Ask Your Peers’, try ‘Ask An Engineering Colleague’ where you can consult experts in various fields of engineering.

With ‘Editor’s Web Choices’, you can surf among high quality engineering Web sites chosen and reviewed by the Village’s staff. You may also like to explore the ‘Network of Experts.’ This is a searchable database of over 15,000 experts in areas of engineering, technology, and applied physics.

To access Ei Village, go to the Library Online System, choose Complete List of Databases, then Engineering.

**IBM Patent Server**


This is a convenient site for searching patents in a particular topic. For example, you can search for “radio communication system” with all the years from 1971 to present and retrieve hundreds of patents for the topic. Viewing and printing patent images is possible, though it can be slow and the printouts might be incomplete. To view or print patent images more effectively, note the patent numbers and use the PatentView database in the Database Search Room behind the Reference Counter in the Library.

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the world-wide web, has increased the difficulties involved.

This intensive seminar will bring researchers, vendors and users with different backgrounds together to discuss the Chinese automation issues facing libraries today. We hope the seminar will lead to specific action, and the implementation of these solutions for the benefit of all.
LIBRARY SYSTEM UPDATES

Printing Chinese from the Libray Catalog

In Windows, you can now print Chinese records to a network printer from the telnet interface to the Library Online Catalogs! Previously, this would generate pages of garbage. To print Chinese records, just select "P > Print" from the Catalog's menu and choose "Big-5 Attached Printer".

Faster Server

You may have already noticed that the Library Online Catalog system is responding MUCH faster than before. During the Summer, the Library upgraded this server from a 100 Mhz machine to a more robust 400 Mhz. This upgrade is especially noticeable when using the web interface to the Library Online Catalogs at http://ustlib.ust.hk/

Library Instruction Notes

You can find instruction notes and handouts used for Library classes on our web server at http://library.ust.hk/resource.html #path. The number available is increasing rapidly. Be sure to take a look, as you will certainly find the information both helpful and timely.

Who to Contact

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Circulation 2358-6771
Collection Development 2358-6704
Document Supply Service 2358-6755
Media Resources 2358-6786
Reference 2358-6765
Systems 2358-6741

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LBCAPLAN
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