Systems Developments

This Fall the library will have a new Reserve Image Database system. An entirely new software program has been developed by NouSoft, Inc. using object oriented programming techniques. It will feature state-of-the-art searching and display capabilities. The Reserve Image Database contains electronic images of all journal articles that are on reserve for the current semester. This database can be accessed from workstations set up in the Open Reserve room. With this database, there is never any waiting for checked-out items to be returned. Printing of articles on a laser printer is also available.

NouSoft is developing a journal citation program for the library, utilizing the same Systems-continued on page 3

Collection Spotlight: Antique Maps

The Library's Special Collection of 94 antique maps will be featured in the fall exhibition. Most of these maps are of China and the surrounding region. They date from the 15th century through the 19th century and show the growth of knowledge about the geography of the region. The artistic quality of the maps is outstanding, as is their historical value.

This collection was started in 1992 when there was strong campus interest in 17th century China. We were fortunate in finding a map dealer who could work with us in locating important representative maps by famous cartographers. In addition to the exhibition, these maps will eventually be featured on a CD-ROM, in order to make them more fully available for study and consultation.

Many famous mapmakers are represented. Ortelius' 1602 editions of Chinae, Olim Sinarum Regionis, Nova Descriptio, the first Western map of China; and his Maris Pacifici, the first available printed map of the Pacific Ocean, are compelling.

Ortelius' 1598 Tartariae Sive Magni Chami Regni Typus, an influential map first published in 1570, was the first map to draw the relationship between Asia, Japan, and America and to foster the idea of a Northeast passage via Arctic Europe to Japan. An 1846 set of admiralty charts shows the Pearl River Estuary from Lantao to Canton, based on the 1815 and 1840 surveys, prior to the handover of Hong Kong to the British.

Internet Upgrade

The library's Internet connection was upgraded during the Summer to provide a faster connection to databases and sites outside of Hong Kong. Machines in the library are now using a line provided by Hong Kong SuperNet which is separate from the traffic of the rest of the campus. The implementation of this new line is completely transparent to our users, however we expect the benefits will be readily apparent. The faster line allows the library to provide direct
access to new databases which were not practically accessible before.

Two that are the most exciting are Britannica Online and FirstSearch. Britannica Online is a WEB site containing the Encyclopaedia Britannica in electronic form. The power of computer searching adds enormous utility to this prestigious encyclopedia, and it is now available to the HKUST community. FirstSearch is a collection of databases, including WorldCat, Sociological Abstracts, Environmental Sciences & Pollution Management, Biotechnology & BioEngineering, Art Index, and more than 30 others which can be searched online.

The Lexis/Nexis search stations will also benefit from the faster Internet connection, as will searches of overseas library catalogs through the library system. Finally, the growing trend in publishing electronic journals is being watched closely and the library has begun exploring opportunities in this area.

Welcome to the Internet

Each issue of Notes includes a short article focusing on the Internet, a global network of computer networks with a vast number of information resources available.

The Hong Kong SuperNet and the Hong Kong Academic and Research Network (HARNET) are connected to the NSFNet in the United States. By that connection, they are a part of what is called the Internet. The Internet is a collection of networks of various sizes, all joined together and interacting. The glue that holds them together consists of communications protocols, the most important of which is called TCP/IP.

There are a number of different ways to access the Internet. You can have an interactive session using a program called TELNET; files can be transferred using FTP; GOPHER lets you explore hierarchically organized files; and the World-Wide Web has brought hypertext links to many information locations.

There are also different ways of interacting with people through the Internet. You can participate in real-time discussion using programs like IRC; or communicate using the delayed distribution mechanisms of e-mail, mailing lists, and usenet newsgroups.

This column will focus on where these access tools can take you. The Library has many books which explain Internet tools. One of the best is The Whole Internet: User’s Guide & Catalog, by Ed Krol (TK5105.875.157 K76 1994). The Library also provides a help-line for Internet questions: LBONLINE@usthk.ust.hk, and a web server (http://library.ust.hk/) to make some resources more useful.

You may want to read the earlier articles, which are in the electronic edition of this newsletter on the Library Web server at http:/library.ust.hk/info/notes/notes.html

Exporting Records From the Catalog Using E-mail

You can now export records from the Catalog, and send them using E-mail. The initial procedures are the same as before. When viewing a record or a list of records, choose ‘E > Mark item(s) for EXPORT.’ Continue to do this throughout your search session whenever you find a record you need. This creates a list on the Library’s computer which you may send to your e-mail account.

Return to the main menu. There will
Media Reserve

At the beginning of every semester, faculty members are reminded to send in their requests for items to be placed on reserve.

Did you know that along with books, journals, and notes, the same can be done for items in Media Resources? The main purpose of the media collection is to support and supplement class teaching; and audiovisual materials have proven to be the most effective teaching aids in most disciplines. For instance, we have more than 800 videos in the sciences, some 1,200 in technology, some 1,000 in social sciences and business, and 1,000 in the arts. Yet in the past, only a few colleagues (mainly from Computer Science, Physics, and Humanities) have made use of this “reserve” service for media materials.

The easiest and fastest way to request that items be placed on Media Reserve is to send us your completed request form (direct to Media Resources on LG1 of the library, or by e-mail to LBMEDIA@usthk.ust.hk). If your required item is not in the library, we can also try to acquire it for you. Send your purchase request by e-mail to LBMEDIA or LBCOLL@usthk.ust.hk. Please remember that it usually takes longer to trace and acquire audiovisual materials than it does for print materials.

Library Orientation

The library video that is shown for new student orientation is available in the Library for check-out. An interactive guided tour is set up on two Macintoshes near the Circulation counter at the Library entrance. Additionally, the Library’s Web server offers information on many aspects of services and collections within and beyond this library.

Orientation offered specifically for new faculty: Librarians will contact new faculty to set a time for a demonstration of electronic databases, discussion of ILL policies and procedures, how to request materials, and so on. A folder, Information for Faculty, will be sent to all new faculty members. If you are interested in this orientation, please feel free to contact the following:

- **Biochemistry, Biology, Chemistry:** Steve Yip (lbsteve, 6756)
- **Math, Physics:** Carol Lunce (lbclunce, 6758)
- **Engineering:**
  - Tom Lundstrom (lbtoml, 6759)
  - Terry Leung (lbterry, 6751)
- **Business:**
  - Diana Chan (lbdianac, 6765)
  - Louisa Kwok (lbouisa, 6755)
- **Humanities & Social Sciences:**
  - Victoria Caplan (lbcaplan, 6752)
Suggestions and Answers

Cancel Own Holds: Users can now cancel their own holds, under the "VIEW your own circulation record" option.

LG4 Furniture: Over the next few months, some additional study furniture will be installed on LG4. This will result in several hundred more study places in the Library.

UST Theses: UST master's and doctoral theses are now available. They are shelved on LG4.

Express Copier: The public photocopier on the ground floor is an Express Lane copier. This copier is reserved for users needing to make 10 copies or less only.

Copier Cards: When you purchase a card from the machine, $5 goes to the cost of the card itself. The Library subsidizes the rest of the cost. Also, when the card runs out of money, you can add more by using the value loader machines.

Reserving Seats: Remember that if you need a seat, and you see one that has belongings but has been unoccupied for some time, you may place the belongings on the floor and use the seat.

Policy on Library Access

The UST Library seeks to benefit scholars whether within or outside of the UST community. However, licensing restrictions in some cases prevent the sharing of databases with non-UST patrons, and the Library cannot provide study space for Hong Kong secondary school students nor serve as a public library.

The Library's primary commitment is to UST students, faculty, and staff. When space, collections, or services are overburdened, the Library reserves the right to restrict the use of materials, services, and facilities.

Survey of Journal Usage

During this academic year the Library staff will conduct a journal usage survey. In order for this study to accurately reflect HKUST usage patterns, please do not reshelve any journal that you use, whether bound or unbound. They will be reshelved by Library staff. Thank you for your cooperation.

Who to Contact

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