Learning Space Enhancements

As you know, the renovation of space on 1/F and LG1 of the Library was completed in time for the start of Spring Term. Reaction by students has been very positive, with both areas instantly becoming among the most popular in the building!

The entire design was informed by user feedback, most notably from last year’s Learning Space Design Workshops. For those who participated – please accept our thanks. More information about the workshops is online at http://library.ust.hk/info/userinputs/

To summarize, newspapers and periodicals from LG1 were moved to G/F, making room for a redesign of the Media Resources area and an extension of the Learning Commons. The 1/F space was shifted from the previous high-density “study hall” arrangement to a somewhat more flexible furniture mix and space layout with greater focus on the grand window views. At the same time, the seating density needed during exam periods was retained. The Thesis Room was also converted from open tables to individual carrels in a dedicated “deep quiet zone”.

E-Discovery Week 2015 – Learn. Search. Win!

The Library was a hive of activity the week before Chinese New Year. Twelve e-resource workshops as well as a two-day database vendor exhibition were held in the week of February 9. The rich and dense program drew more than 800 participants (both staff and students) to our workshops and to the exhibition booths in the Library Gallery. Participants learnt about our highlighted databases, took a quiz, and were entered into a Grand Lucky Draw. Workshop instructors, vendor representatives, and Library staff were eager to help all quiz-takers find the correct answers. All participants learned, searched and stood a good chance to win great prizes.

The event came to a jovial conclusion on February 25, when Ms Diana Chan, University Librarian, and Mr K T Lam, Associate University Librarian, congratulated the winners and presented their prizes. Thanks to our generous sponsors, prizes ranged from Starbucks coupons for our most active participant, Apple Store gift cards, a Galaxy TabPro, a Xiaomi phone and an IPAD Air for our Lucky Draw winners.

In a survey after the event, participants were all very supportive of the E-Discovery Week. 95% of respondents rated the event as good/excellent; and almost 100% agreed that they learnt more about library resources via E-Discovery Week, and would continue to use them. Students welcome engaging and interactive ways to learn and they want more of this!

For more of the Library’s E-Discovery Week visit: http://library.ust.hk/e-discovery/
Library Book Talks

On April 14, Mr Peter Lau, Publisher of Asia One Books, will give a talk on Challenges and Opportunities of Art Book Publishing in Hong Kong.

Publishing art books in Hong Kong is even more challenging. Since founding Asia One Books in 1997, Mr Lau has led his company in creating illustrative books representing the city’s art scene as it develops – documenting its fascinating stories while bringing wider exposure to Hong Kong’s most talented artists, photographers, illustrators and designers. Each publication can be regarded as a work of art in itself, which is created with unstinting dedication to craftsmanship in design, colour management and printing.

Mr Lau will share with us his vision and experience of working with legendary photographers like Fan Ho, Michael Wolf and Daido Moriyama, and also emerging artists such as Jeanie Leung and KC Kwan (Winner of the First Hong Kong Photo Book Awards).

Mr Thomas Ng, Director of the HKUST Publishing Technology Center, will be the moderator of the talk. For details visit http://lbcone.ust.hk/booktalk/

In March we had the honor of having Mr Sin Kwok Lam (冼國林) to give a book talk on “冼國林拆解詠春竅門” (Wing Chun Martial Arts: Principles and Techniques). That evening, Mr Sin explained the basic concepts, principles, and techniques to the myths of Wing Chun. He also shared his insights on the practical application of Wing Chun, as well as stories on how this martial arts inspired his personal and professional life. Being the first Library book talk on martial arts, it has given us a glimpse to and stimulated much interest in one of the most popular Chinese martial arts.

Scholarly Communications Seminars

In February and March, the Library arranged three seminars about how to write and publish quality articles. On the 12th of February, Ms Rachel Barrington, Director of IEEE Client Services, shared with us How to write a Quality Technical Paper and Where to Publish within IEEE. She talked about the new contents added to IEEE Xplore, the tips for smart searching & how to make use of IEEE Xplore contents for research.

Then on the 12th of March, IOP’s Editorial Director, Ms Nicola Gulley let you know about Publishing your Research with IOP – navigating the changing environment. She covered many topics such as how to respond to the referees’ reports, the different options for publishing (subscription and open access), questions to ask of your co-authors and the ethical issues. Furthermore, a Putonghua workshop was held on how to write and publish journal papers「怎麼撰寫和發表期刊論文」on the 24th of March. Professor Tongxi Yu, Professor Emeritus and Senior Advisor to the VP-RG, HKUST, shared with our researchers about the main ingredients in preparing journal papers, including selecting the right journal and paper type, language usage, manuscript structure, as well as a few most critical points which require special attention. Hopefully you didn't miss it.

The Library regularly organizes seminars for HKUST researchers. Most of the presentation files and videos of the seminars are available on the Scholarly Communications @ HKUST Seminars webpage at http://lbcone.ust.hk/sc-sem/

Closing the Loop – Using Feedback!

In 2014, the Library conducted three different groups of activities to collect users’ views on various library services and facilities: the series of Focus Group Meetings on Library Space and Collection were open discussions with students on the use of the Library; three design workshops on learning space and three on library website structure invited students to share with us their design ideas from scratch.

All these feedbacks were considered by the Library for prompt action or future planning. For example, as a result of the focus
group feedback, the Course Reserve loan rules were changed, and a more eye-catching popular reading bookshelf was installed. On the other hand, some design ideas in the learning space workshops helped shape the choice of furniture in the Library 1/F and LG1 enhancement that was just completed in February.

The website design project is still in progress. When it reaches the design stage, the Library will make use of the student ideas collected in the web design workshops.

We want to thank all of you who participated in those focus groups and design workshops. They really helped us improve Library facilities and services.

For a detailed report of the activities, the ideas collected, and subsequent actions the Library took, you can check these pages:

Library Space and Collection Focus Groups: [http://library.ust.hk/focusgroup.html](http://library.ust.hk/focusgroup.html)


Library Website Design Workshops: [http://library.ust.hk/info/userinputs/2014webdesign.html](http://library.ust.hk/info/userinputs/2014webdesign.html)

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Exhibitions – A Plethora of Choice!

Exhibition on Microcosmic Conceptual Art of Living Systems (生命微觀意象藝術畫展)

In April the Library will stage an exhibition on paintings by Professor Kuang Diaoyuan (匡調元教授), a medical scientist who has been endeavoring to bring science and art together in a new art form. The exhibition will be held in the G/F Ping Yuan and Kinmay W Tang Gallery from 26 April to 30 June.

Born in Jiangsu in 1931, Professor Kuang received his Bachelor Degree of Medicine from Shanghai No 1 Medical College in 1956. Since 1960, he has been devoting himself to researching clinical pathology by integrating traditional Chinese medicine with Western medicine. At the age of 76, Professor Kuang became an apprentice of Mr Zhu Pu (朱樸), a painting master at Chinese Painting Institute of Shanghai. Since then, Professor Kuang has been portraying, in a traditional Chinese painting fashion, the morphology of all sorts of cells and tissues in a human body that he has observed under the microscope over the last fifty years. And he calls this unique combination: Microcosmic Conceptual Art of Living Systems.

He considers his style of portrayals to be neither Western abstract expressionism nor traditional Chinese landscape painting. Instead, a more clinical perspective has been employed in his paintings to evoke metaphorical connections between physiological structures and celestial bodies. He believes the doctrine “Isomorphism of man and nature” (“天人同構”) can substantially broaden people’s horizons.

Mr Chen Xie Jun (陳燮君), Curator of Shanghai Museum, praised his works as “a groundbreaking genre of painting!”

New “Art Dimensions” Display – IELM 2145 Design Studio Course Works

This spring semester we saw a new display of student works in the Library.

These are models made by students after completing the IELM 2145 Design Studio, which is a course taught by Professor Ravi Goonetilleke and Professor Uwe Reishl of the Department of Industrial Engineering & Logistics Management. The course required students to translate their creative ideas into real models using various materials and
assembly methods.
The models, including “Lampshades”, “Wheels”, “Gliders” and “Space/Submersible Module”, are now installed on various floors of the Library. In addition to their physical display, they are also featured on the Library Website at http://lbcone.ust.hk/exhibit/exhibition/39 for you to see and give feedback. If you have not had a chance to see them, do come to the Library to appreciate the creativity and model building skills of our students.

Exhibition: A Life between East and West

A new exhibition about Professor Paul T K Lin will be staged in the Hong Kong Chiu Chow Chamber of Commerce Ko Pui Shuen Gallery in mid April. Professor Lin was a prominent scholar and also a remarkable activist who dedicated his life to the rise of an independent, prosperous, and democratic China. Growing up as a Canadian born Chinese, he attended universities in Canada and the United States before moving to the newly established People's Republic of China in 1950, and staying there for the next fifteen years. In 1964, he returned to Canada to share his experiences of New China and to advocate for rapprochement between China and the West. He left behind many boxes of documents when he passed away in 2004. These valuable materials have now become part of the HKUST Library's Special Collections. This exhibition presents some of the key papers, correspondence and books donated by Mrs Lin, which illuminate Professor Lin's exceptional life between East and West.

New Library Mugs!

The new Library drink mugs have arrived, and are on sale for the low, low price of just $48! Get one from the counter today, and never spill again!

Easy E-Reading: Download & Enjoy

Reading online should be easy, but sometimes it presents frustrations. The Library has bought or subscribes to many e-book packages – but not all of them allow the full download to your own device for easy off-line e-reading.

To promote reading in general, and e-reading in particular, starting in late March, the Library is promoting Easy E-reading from those collections of e-books that allow unlimited
concurrent users and easy full-download functions. This will allow the HKUST community to download and read wherever they are, during mid-term break and beyond.

This idea has been successfully implemented on the Bucharest metro system (http://tinyurl.com/bucharest-metro) and the Austrian city of Klagenfurt (http://tinyurl.com/austria-qr) in 2012, and recently on the subway in Beijing (http://tinyurl.com/beijing-reader).

How will it be promoted at HKUST? Mainly via physical posters with QR codes, although there is also an all e-book Collection Highlights page at http://lbapps.ust.hk/highlights/e-reading. We hope to continue making the campus an extension of the library, so HKUST community members can enjoy some e-books, any time and any place.

Collection Spotlight: Archives for 19th Century Research

Three archive databases were recently added to the Library collection.

Asia and the West: Diplomacy and Cultural Exchange

Asia and the West features rare primary source collections related to international relations between Asian countries and the West during the 19th century. Some highlights include the Boxer Rebellion, missionary activity in Asia and the Philippine Insurrection. These unique documents range from government reports, diplomatic correspondences, periodicals and newspapers to treaties, trade agreements and NGO papers. Documents are sourced from the National Archives at Kew, London and the National Archives, United States.

China: Trade, Politics and Culture 1793-1980

This archive collects a wide variety of original source material detailing China’s interaction with the West from the Macartney Embassy to China in 1793, through to the Nixon/Heath visits to China in 1972-74. It provides multiple perspectives – from politicians, diplomats, missionaries, business people and tourists, and documents many of the key events that spanned across these two centuries. It also collects over 400 color paintings, maps and drawings, as well as photographs and ephemeral items, depicting Chinese people, places and customs. Sources are mainly drawn from the British Library and the Library of the School of Oriental and African Studies at the University of London.

Mapping the World: Maps and Travel Literature

Mapping the World is a select collection of historical atlases, maps, gazetteers and travel narratives, drawn from the British Library, National Archives at Kew, American Antiquarian Society, and University of Alberta. The materials focus on travel and exploration during the 19th century, and cover Europe, Asia, the Americas and the Polar Regions, providing valuable insights to the Age of Imperialism and the rise of leisure travel among the middle classes. This archive provides ample evidence of how the world was shrinking by distance, and how societal values and interests evolved.


Explore these databases via Library home page -> Databases -> Alphabetical List.

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