

2009 iGroup Online Education Conference "Knowledge and Discovery in the New Technological Landscape"



Bringing collections to life:

Discoverability in an era of knowledge transfer

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Context: Some introductory comments

Key trends for a 21st Century Academic Library* 二十一世纪学术图书馆的主要趋势

• Customization and personalization

个人化及客制化

- Delivering content, services anywhere, anytime 内容发送,随时随地的服务
- Demand for self-service 自助服务的需求
- Constant change, and innovative and hybrid approaches and structures

持续不断的转变,具创意及复合性的方法及架构

 Successful graduates and productive faculty as key measures of success (RoI)

以成功的毕业生及有生产力的学系作为衡量成功的基准〈投资回报率〉

• Expanding social environments

不断扩展的社会环境

• Culture of assessment and accountability

评估文化及责任文化

 Need to market content and services and to raise their awareness and availability

需要把内容与服务宣传推广以及提高其知悉度及可获得 性

Collaboration at all levels

与所有层面的合作

• **Competition** for funding, for collections, for staff, for donors, for political attention and for visibility

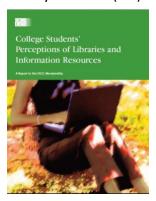
为资金、馆藏、人力资源、捐款人、政治注意力及知名 度而竞争

* Neal, J. & Harboe-Ree, C. (2009) The University of Hong Kong External Review of the University Libraries [Unpublished Manuscript].

Where do you start your information search?

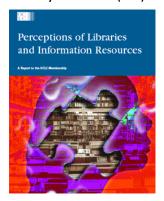
College

- Search engines (72%).
- Library web site (2%)



Everybody

- Search engines (84%).
- Library web site (1%)

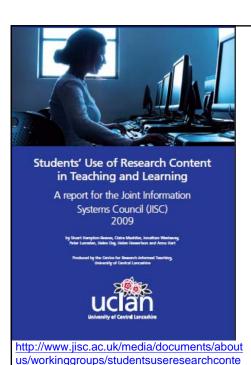


Perceptions and habits

- Quality and quantity of information are top determinants of a satisfactory information search. Search engines are rated higher than librarians.
- The criterion selected by most information consumers to evaluate electronic resources is that the *information is* worthwhile. Free is a close second. Speed has less impact.
- Respondents *do not trust* purchased information more than free information.
- Library users like to *self-serve*. Most respondents do not seek assistance when using library resources.

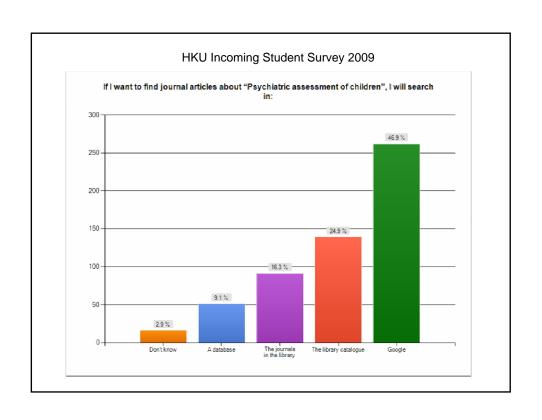
Libraries

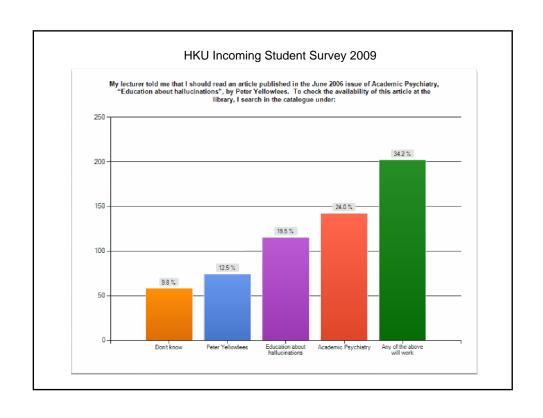
- "Books" is the library brand. Borrowing books is the number 1 service.
- Most information consumers are not aware of, nor do they use, most libraries' electronic information resources.
- Only 10 percent of college students indicated that their library's collection fulfilled their information needs after accessing the library Web site from a search engine.
- People trust what they find using search engines. They also trust information from libraries. They trust them about the same
- Search engines fit the information consumer's lifestyle better than physical or online libraries

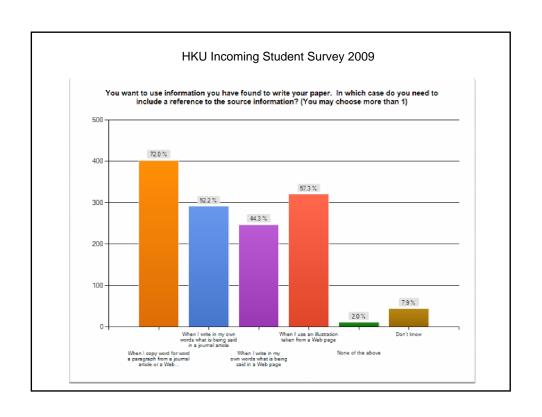


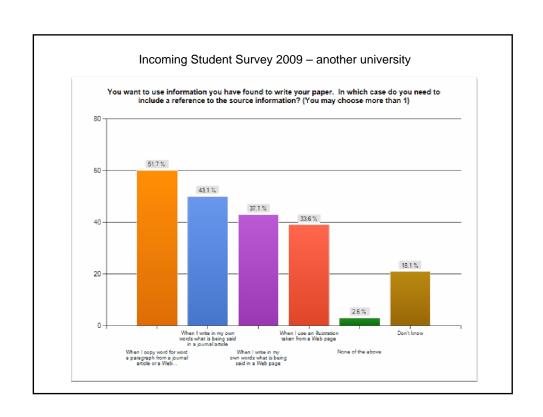
- Most students will go to their library catalogue first, then Google
- Although Google, Google Books and Google Scholar are heavily used, the library catalogue is still the preferred first choice for most students
- Students rarely look beyond the first couple of pages in Google
- Trend is towards electronic access still students use library visits with or instead of the internet
- The internet is used but also distrusted.

nt.pdf









Accessibility vs Discoverability

Accessible

- Unlocked
- Not hidden
- the degree to which a product (e.g., device, service, environment) is accessible by as many people as possible
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Accessibility

Discoverable

• Can you find it?





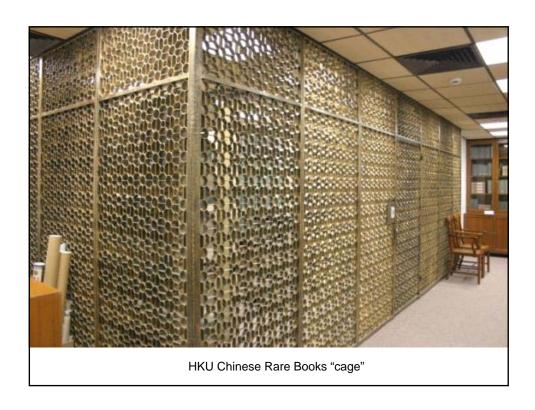
Accessibility?



Bodleian Library entrance, Oxford. http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bodleian20040124CopyrightKaihsuTai.jpg

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Salone-sistino.jpg







Open shelves. Accessible yes, but discoverable?

Knowledge Transfer and Knowledge Exchange



The University of Hong Kong's 3 Strategic Themes

- Enhancing the student learning experience
- Advancing research & innovation
- Promoting knowledge exchange & demonstrating leadership in communities across the region



Knowledge Transfer

- Within a modern, knowledge driven economy, knowledge transfer is about transferring good ideas, research results and skills between universities, other research organisations, business and the wider community to enable innovative new products and services to be developed. (www.ost.gov.uk)
 - www.bl.uk/aboutus/stratpolprog/redeflib/glossary/index.html
- The British Library described as a "Cathedral for Knowledge Transfer".
 - http://www.bl.uk/knowledgetransfer/morenews.html

Knowledge Exchange

 the process of engaging, for mutual benefit, with business, government or the community to generate, acquire, apply and make accessible the knowledge needed to enhance material, human, social, cultural and environmental wellbeing

- (HKU internal document)

• What role should the library play?

Bringing collections to life (1): HKU Scholarly Output

The Scholars Hub

The HKU Scholars Hub The University of Hong Kong



Open Access (OA) and the Institutional Repository (IR)

- Open access (OA) is free, immediate, permanent, full-text, online access, for any user, web-wide, to digital scientific and scholarly material en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access
- An institutional repository (IR) collects, preserves, and disseminates in digitial form, the intellectual output of an institution. IRs usually provide open access on items held within the IR. The "HKU Scholars Hub" is the IR for HKU. http://hub.hku.hk/help.jsp

HKU Scholars Hub Holdings

Material type	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Article	1,338	3,234	3,685
Abstract	0	0	197
Book	149	156	450
Book Chapter	0	0	4
Conference Paper	0	1,524	2,165
Finding Aid	0	0	1
Image	0	0	101
Journal	3	6	11
Learning Object	0	0	165
Moving Image	173	173	188

HKU Scholars Hub Holdings (cont'd)

Material type	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Newspaper article	0	0	56
Patent	20	87	88
Postgraduate Thesis	15,166	16,001	17,012
Postprint	200	350	432
Preprint	0	0	8
Presentation	6	115	115
Student Project	145	152	169
Undergraduate Thesis	268	268	455
TOTAL	17,468	22,066	25,302

Improving discoverability of HKU content

• OAI – PMH



• SCIRUS



SCOPUS

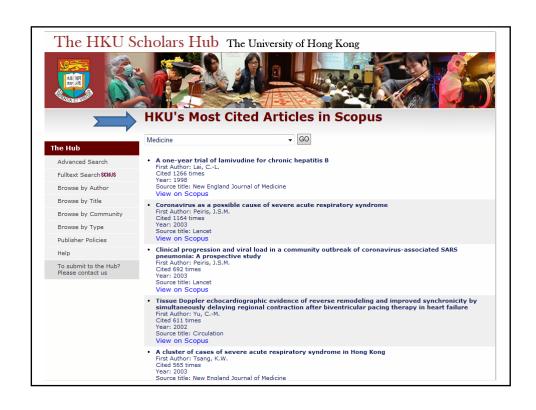


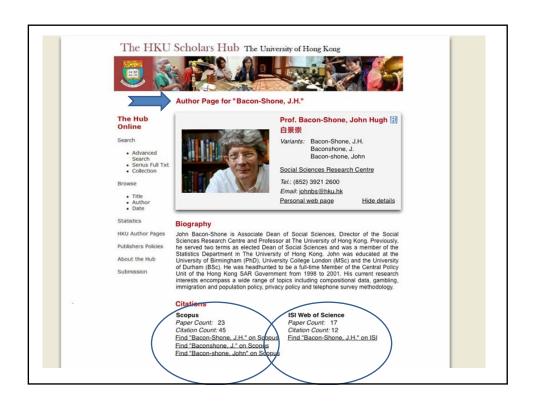
• Web of Science











Output

- Global access to HKU scholarly content
- Increased visibility of the work of HKU and its scholars
- Increased citation counts for HKU scholarly works
- Greater global impact of HKU scholarship.

Downloads (2008/09)

Туре	Totals	
Article, Preprint & Postprint	74,011	
Book	807	
Book Chapter	123	
Conference Paper	21,619	
Finding Aid	6	
Image	126	
Journal	161	
Learning Object	304	
Moving Image	1,421	

Downloads (2008/09) (cont'd)

Туре	Totals
Newspaper Article	1,514
Patent	1,226
Postgraduate Thesis	1,303,889
Presentation	3,660
Student Project	18,257
Undergraduate Thesis	35,209
Unknown Type	6,776
Grand TOTAL	1,597,198

Title	Туре	Download times
Dental care service in the post-secondary institutions in Hong Kong	Student Project	6,597
The profession of EDP audit in Hong Kong	PG Thesis	2,723
Dental service for nursery children in Yuen Long	Student Project	2,149
Risk-resilient heuristics and genetic algorithms for security-assur	Article	1,975
Promoting Client Participation: A Study of Youth Probationers in Ho	Postprint	1,207
Quantum spin field effect transistor	Article	892
A general actuator saturation compensator in the continuous-time do	Conference Paper	840
Variation in Antiviral 2',5'-Oligoadenylate Synthetase (2'5'AS) Enz	Article	784
A cognitive-functional investigation of questions in Chinese	PG Thesis	768

Bringing collections to life (2): Rare Book Digitisation Project

A HKUL-iGroup Collaboration





Project Scope: Phase 1

- Digitization, i.e. scanning of images and production of 4,000 e-books (about 1,200,000 images)
- Rare, out-of-copyright books on China and Asia written in English
- Project started in July 2008

Motivators

- Preservation
- Access
- Improving searching capabilities discoverability
- Supporting teaching and research
- Strengthening the role of HKU Libraries as a digital content provider.

Books to be digitized

Western Rare books about Asia, including:

- A. Morrison Collection
- **B.** Hankow Collection
- C. Chater Collection ...





A. Morrison Collection

- Formerly Library of the Morrison Education Society, an educational institution set up in 1836 to further the work of Rev Robert Morrison, the first Protestant missionary in China
- Opened in Old English Factory, Guangzhou, in early 1838

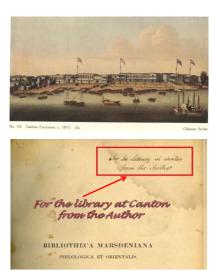


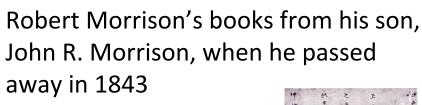
Books from:

• Library at the English Factory (1806-1834)



Thomas R. Colledge

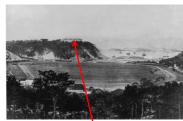








From Guangzhou to HKU



1842 Morrison Hill



1869 City Hall



2222 Old Court House



1913 HKU

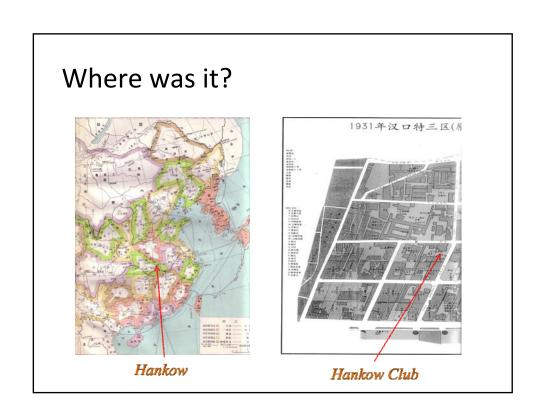
The Collection

- No new additions since 1869
- Representative of the period
- Bible in different languages
- Some books on China
- 1,284 titles in 2,726 volumes



B. Hankow Collection

- The British founded the Hankow Club in 1878 to provide amenities for the foreign communities in Hankow
- A place for fun and social gatherings
- In Chinese the Club was called 「大波樓」 and 「波羅館」(Chinese translation of pool?)



The first library in the foreign concessions in Hankow

- Honorary Librarian Dr A.H. Skinner, a British physician who lived in Hankow for 30 years
- The Library came to accumulate one of the best Far Eastern Collections in any library in China in the early twentieth century

About the Library

- Card catalogue
- Book catalogue
- Book selection policy
- Library regulations







From Hankow to HKU

- China's Recovery of the British Concession in Hankow in 1927
- Exodus of foreigners from Hankow
- The Hankow Club decided to sell books
- HKU bought the 'China' section of the library collection in 1932 for HK\$25,000
- Three thousand (3,000) volumes of books and journals with an emphasis on the Far East

C. Chater Collection

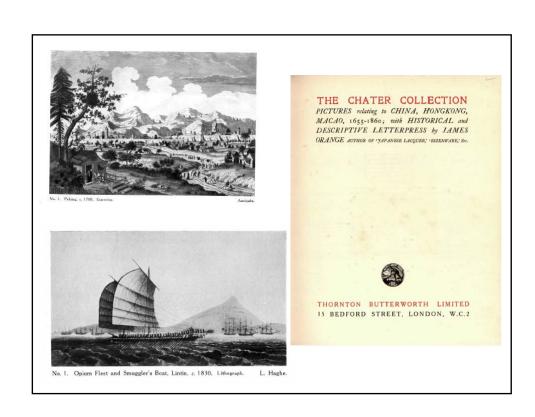
- Sir Paul Chater built up a fine collection of oil paintings, print sketches, ceramics, books and photographs on China.
- He passed away in 1926 and bequeathed his collection to Hong Kong.



The Collection

- Sir Cecil Clementi, Governor of Hong Kong from 1925 to 1930, presented the 54 rare Chater books to the University in 1927
- Book list available at The Chater collection: pictures relating to China, Hongkong, Macao, 1655-1860 by James Orange (1924)
- Mainly 19th century imprints
- Some with excellent illustrations





Scanners

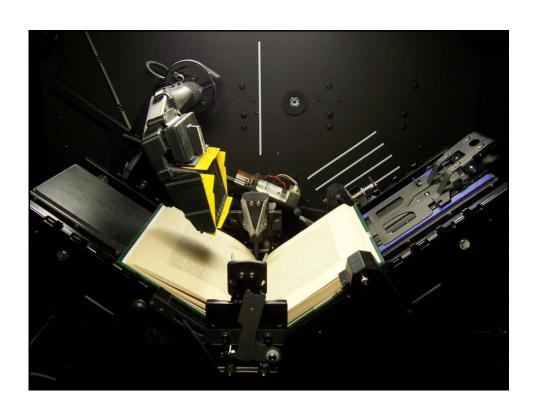
 Kirtas APT 2400 - an automatic book digitization device that features an integrated automatic pageturning robot



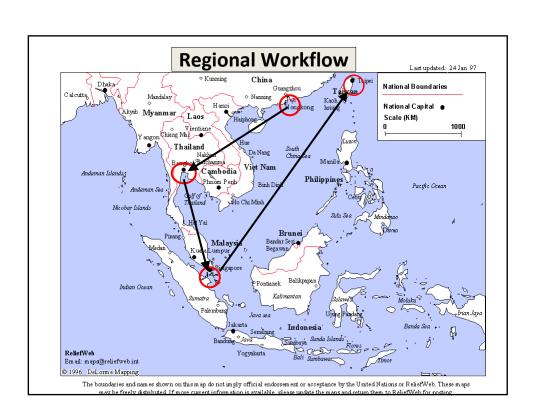


The Kirtas APT 2400

- 2400 images per hour
- Two 16.6 megapixel cameras simultaneous L/R capture
- Auto adjusting cradle (as pages decrease/increase)
- Adjustable, robotic vacuum arm changes pages
- "Page fluffers"



The Kirtas 2400 in action



Regional Workflow

HKU (Hong Kong)



- 1. Inspect and select books (HKU)
- 2. Scanning at HKU Main Library (iGroup)

iGroup (Thailand)

- 3. Editing and cleaning
 - Quality control of every image
- 4. OCR for text and metadata

Regional Workflow

iGroup (Singapore)



- Publishing as an ebook on iGroup platform
- E-distribution, or,

iGroup (Taiwan)

Print on demand



Some examples

Raw image from camera

6 TRANSLATIONS FROM THE CHINESE.

That father is guilty of a crime, who merely feeds his children, but does not

That master, who does not teach with due authority, is a sluggard.

The child who will not learn, acts very improperly.

The youth who does not learn,---what will he be good for in old age?

As the rough diamond not cut, never assumes the form of any jewel; so the man who does not learn, never knows fully the noble exercise of reason.

Cleaned image

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Some examples

Raw image from camera



Cleaned image



ANDARS TOWN - NO

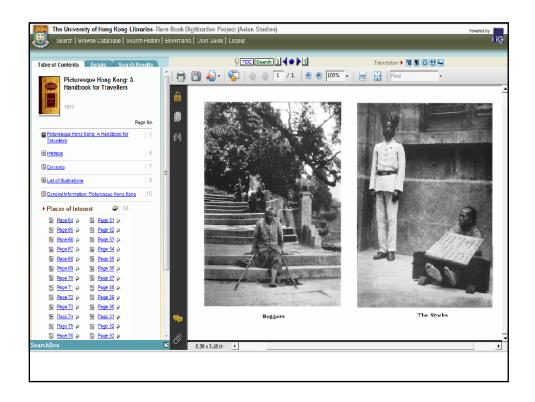
Challenges

- Lighting and setup/layout of book
- Removing book stains and OCR accuracy
- Tightly bound books/thick books
- Uneven surfaces from humidity etc
- Aligning pages and opposite pages
- Odd sized books
- Folded maps & plans
- Old fonts difficult to OCR
- Human intervention required most of the time.

Output: Phase 1

- A Database of e-books of Western language material, many humanities based, many rare, many about China and South East Asia
- A Print on Demand (PoD) service to print a copy of any of the books and have it delivered.





Project Scope: Phase 2

- Digitising over 800,000 pages of:
 - Chinese rare books and journals
 - Western rare books and journals
 - HKU local publications from its Medical and Law Associations
- 2,913 bound volumes and 2,300 loose issues

Phase 2 Highlight

• The North China Herald and Supreme Court & consular gazette (1870-1941, complete, English language).

The North China Herald...

 "the eyes, ears and voice of the foreign community ... loaded with fascinating details of drunken conduct, assults, thefts &c ... intelligence on cities: England, San Francisco, Hong Kong, Tientsin, Hankow, Yokohama, Nagasaki, Foochow ..."
 http://www.rareorientalbooks.com/html/author/North-CHINA_HERALD_.html



http://www.nla.gov.au/apps/cdview?pi=nla.gen-vn3796080-s3-v

The North China Herald...

"an important vehicle for the foreign community as it bound them together with the news and economics of the day. Loaded with very fascinating articles and updates on the trouble in China, attacks on foreigners ... The backbone of news for foreign residents, merchant, diplomats, missionary and staff working in China ..."

http://www.rareorientalbooks.com/html/author/NORTH-CHINA_HERALD_.html



http://www.nla.gov.au/apps/cdview?pi=nla.gen-vn3796080-s3-v

Challenges for The North China Herald...

- Fragility/brittleness
- Rarity
- Security
- Size variations
 - 17.5 cm x 28 cm
 - 21 cm x 32 cm
 - 21.5 cm x 33 cm
 - 21.5 cm x 33 cm
 - 32 cm x 46 cm

Our commitment

- Reaching out to the community, local, regional and global
- Making HKU scholarly output accessible and discoverable through open access
- Making our collections accessible and discoverable through mass digitisation projects.

