My Library @ Hand

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Library Information Anytime Anywhere

http://lib.hku.hk/mylib@hand/

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Why pda delivery option?

- Libraries are in the information collection and distribution business
- We spend 27% of our collection development budget annually on electronic forms of information
- But just owning the information is worthless unless we can distribute it to our faculty and students.

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Why a pda delivery option?

- We distribute our electronic information via terminals in our Main and 5 branch libraries
- We distribute it via the web
- But because Hong Kong is a wireless society, with 83.5% of its citizens using a mobile phones, we decided that we should provide our students and faculty with access to our information resources using hand-held devices

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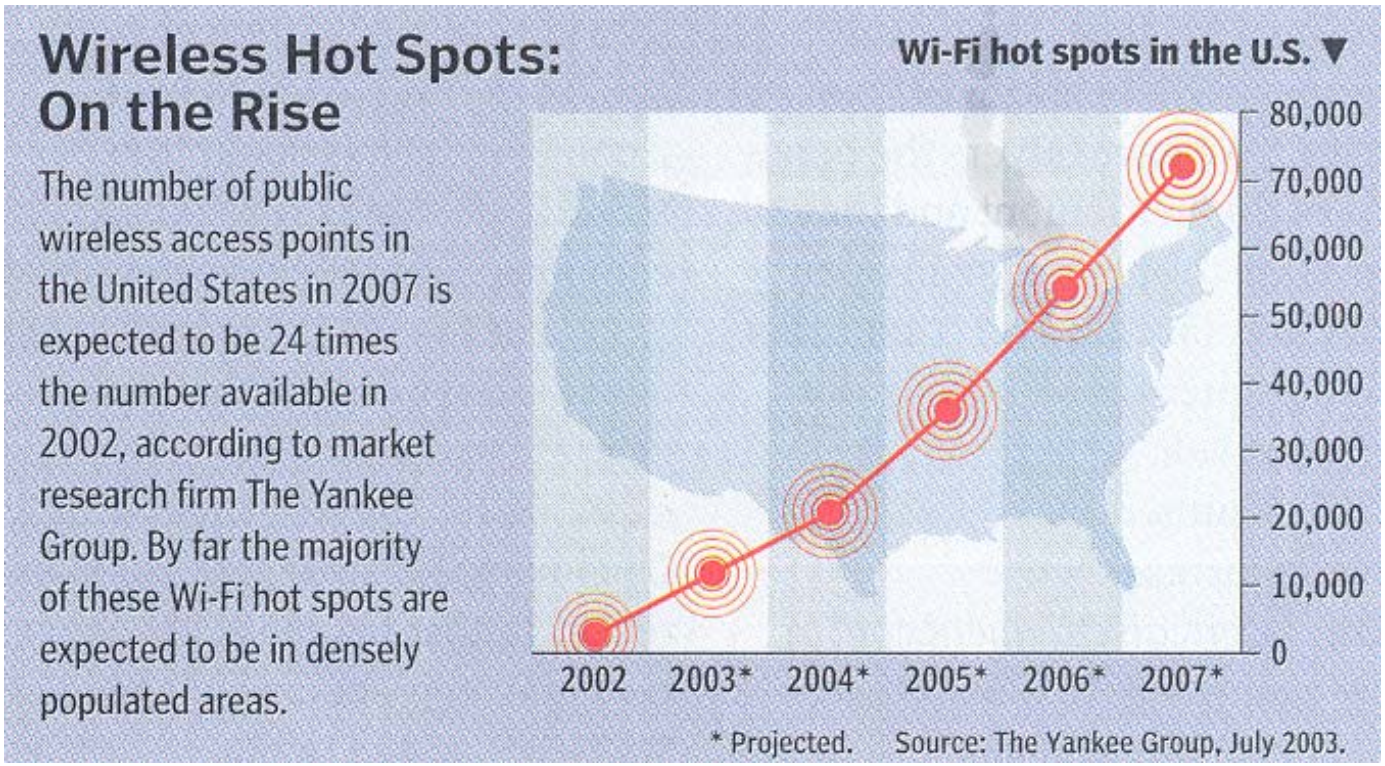
Wireless Technology is all around us

- In our homes
  - TV, VCR, camera,
- In our community
  - Octopus, mobile phone
- In our offices
  - PC, LAN, wireless mouse

Wireless Hot Spots – the trend



Source: PC Magazine, Sep 16, 2003 , p.25.

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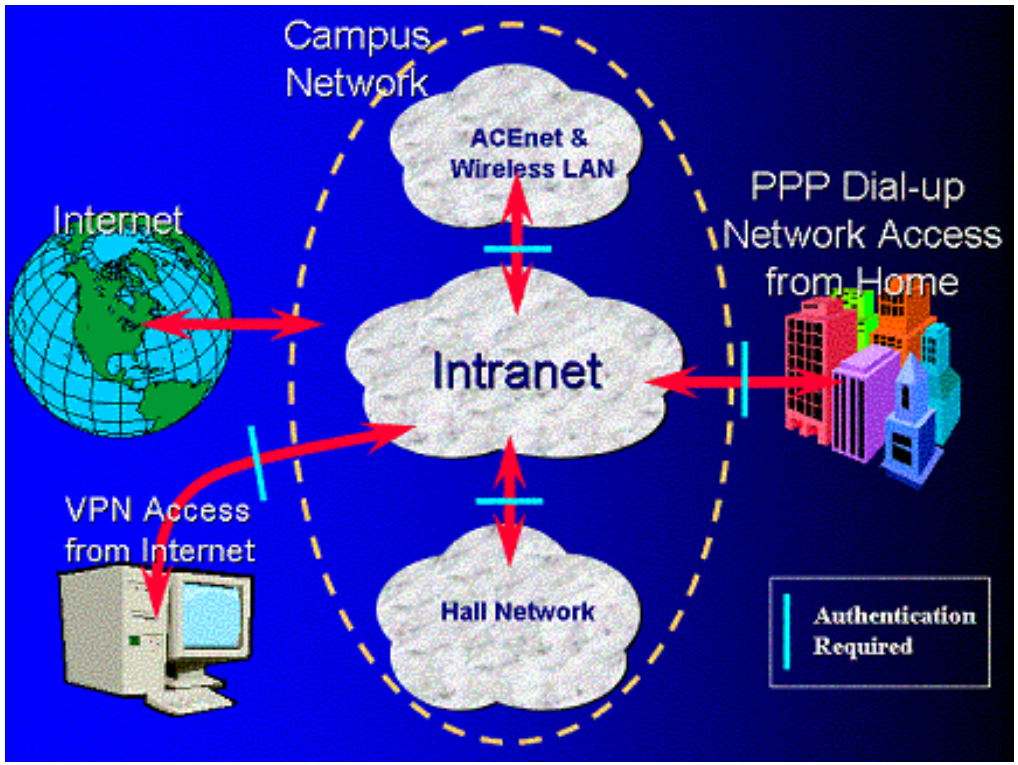
Yet, myths abound about wireless technology that get in the way:

- **It won't work.**
- **It costs too much.**
- **I don't know how to hook up a wireless network.**
- **Security**
- **Signal Strength**

HKU Wireless LAN



Over 200 Wireless access points have been installed on campus.

22 Wireless access points have been installed inside the Main Library

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Why a pda option?

- We believe our students will appreciate an information anywhere, anytime option
- That they will appreciate the opportunity to download pieces of our content for study
- That while pda’s won’t replace laptops (more than 80% of each new intake of students take part in our IBM laptop program), because they are smaller and lighter, they will be embraced.

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Why a pda option?

- We believe that our mobile phone toting students will embrace the trend to combine mobile phones with pdas that can search the web, show movies, and provide all sorts of recreational diversions for the weary student.
- Therefore we decided the time was ripe to provide access to our content using these handy devices.

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We begin with Palm because

- There are already large numbers of educational databases that have been adopted to pda use
- The Tungsten C is wireless and it can take advantage of the technology already in place at HKU
- They were enthusiastic about wanting to partner with us to develop HKU Libraries-specific software

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- MyLibrary@Hand - Launched 6 Oct 2003
- HKU Libraries partners with PalmOne, Syracuse International (donated software) and Sun Microsystems (donated server).
- Hong Kong’s first wireless LAN enabled Palm handheld solution to access library resources and services.

PDA
Pen computer
Radio tower
HKU MG
Mac
Laptop computer
IBM Compatible
MyLibrary
Library Portal
Single Search Engine
SDI Engine
Lib. Info.
Training materials/ Research Guides ..
XML database
Server
Internet
remote web-based resources

Timelines

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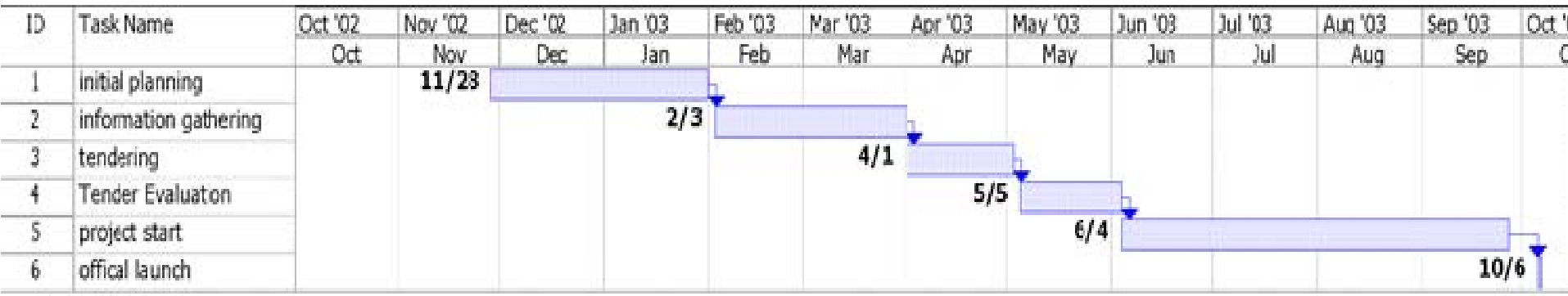

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HKU Mobile Gate

HKU MG Library Contacts

HKU MG Library Materials

HKU MG Library Events

Let's you download information about the Libraries

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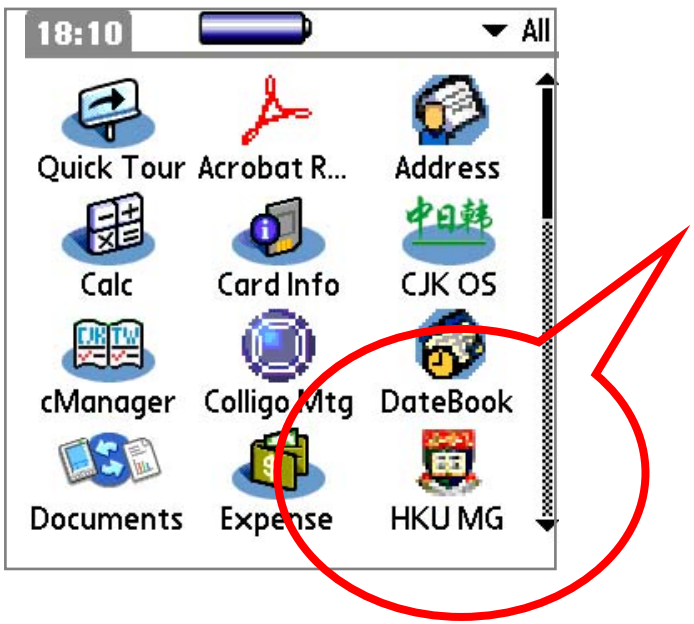
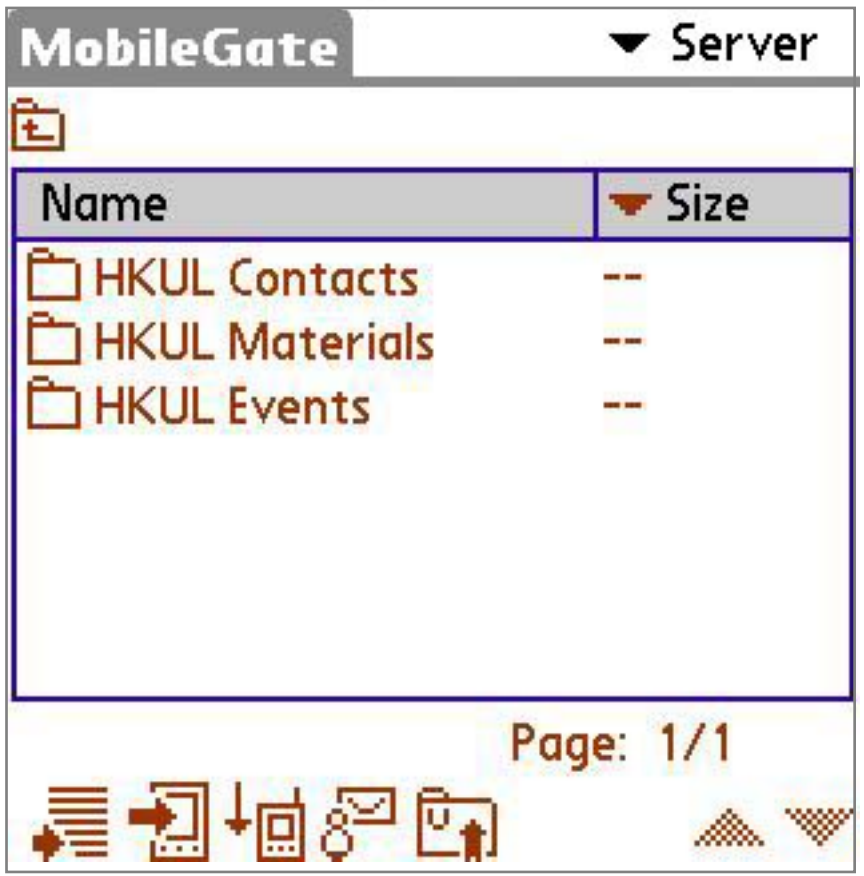
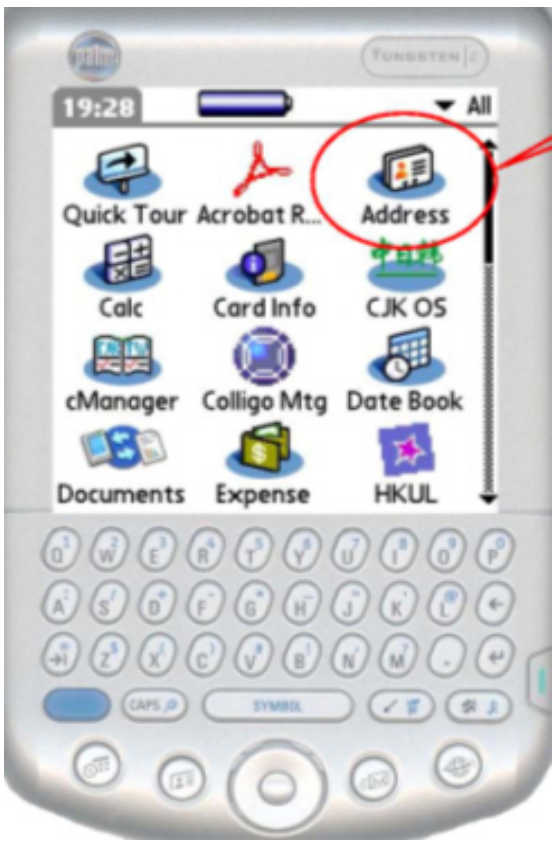
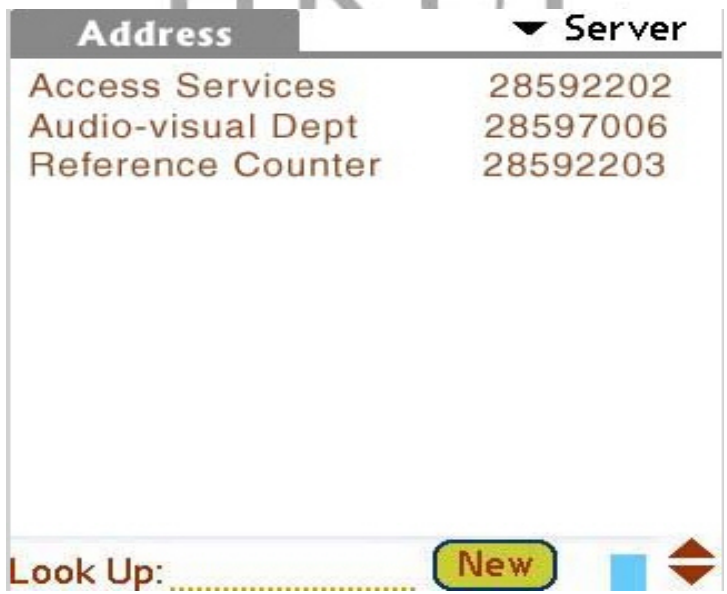




Let's you download information about the Libraries

My Library @ Hand





Mobile Gate

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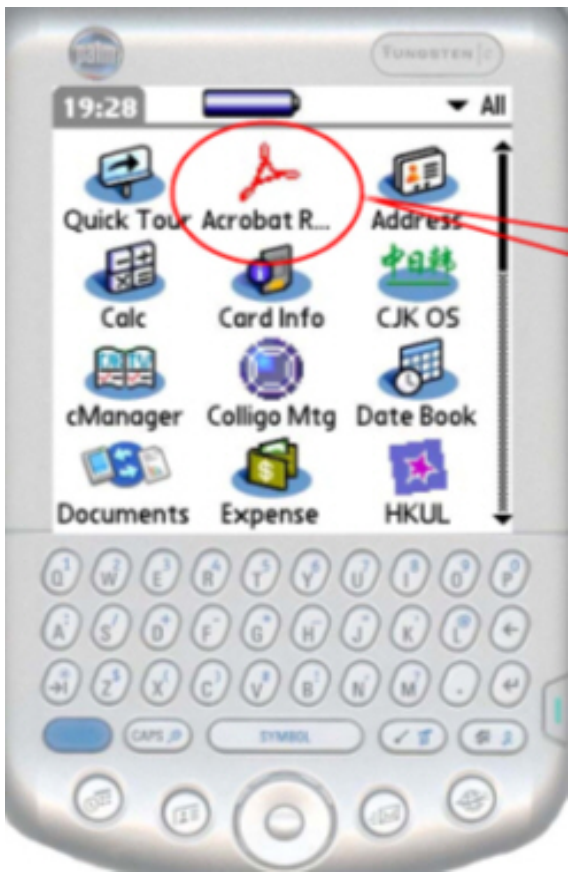

3

Opening Hours

HKU Libraries

	Monday - Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Main Library			
Mid-Sept to Oct	9 am - 10 pm	9 am - 7 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Nov to Feb	9 am - 11 pm	9 am - 7 pm	1 pm - 5 pm
Mar to Mid-June	9 am - 11 pm	9 am - 7 pm	10 am - 7 pm
Mid-June to Mid-Sept	9 am - 10 pm	9 am - 7 pm	Closed
Departments within the Main Library			
Audio-visual Department			
Mid-Sept to Mid-June	9 am - 10 pm	9 am - 5 pm	Closed
Mid-June to Mid-Sept	9 am - 5 pm	9 am - 1 pm	Closed

Mobile Gate

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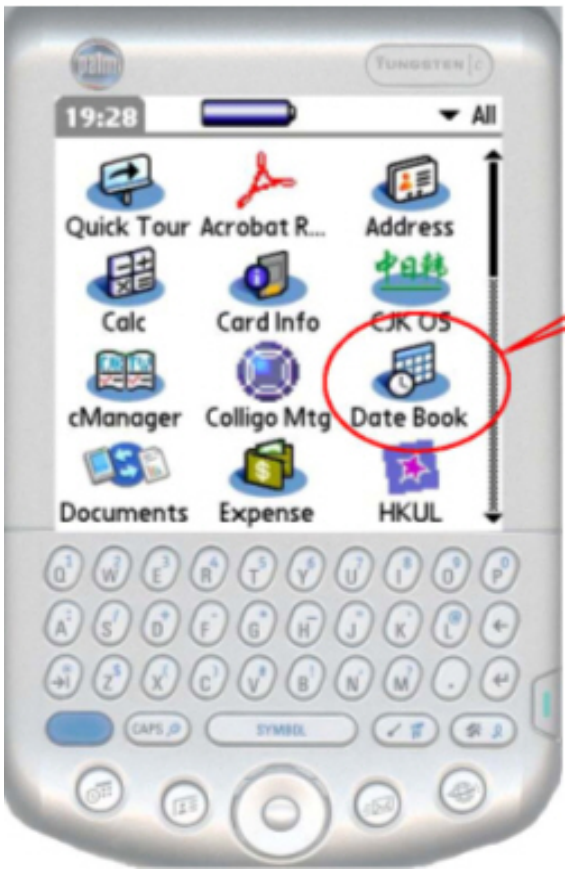

Mobile Gate

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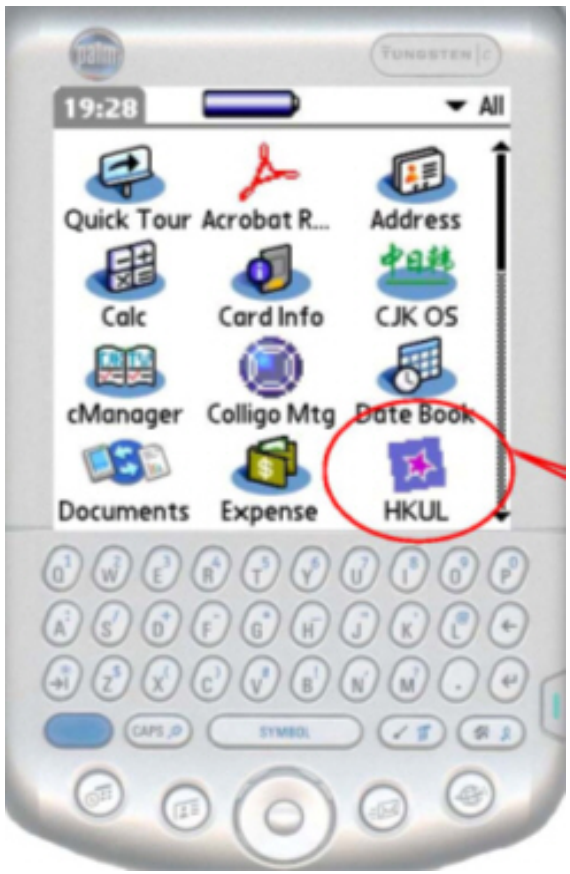

HKUL

- HKUL Prepare offline
- HKUL Submit online
- HKUL Read offline

Libraries Online Services: information accessed from the Libraries

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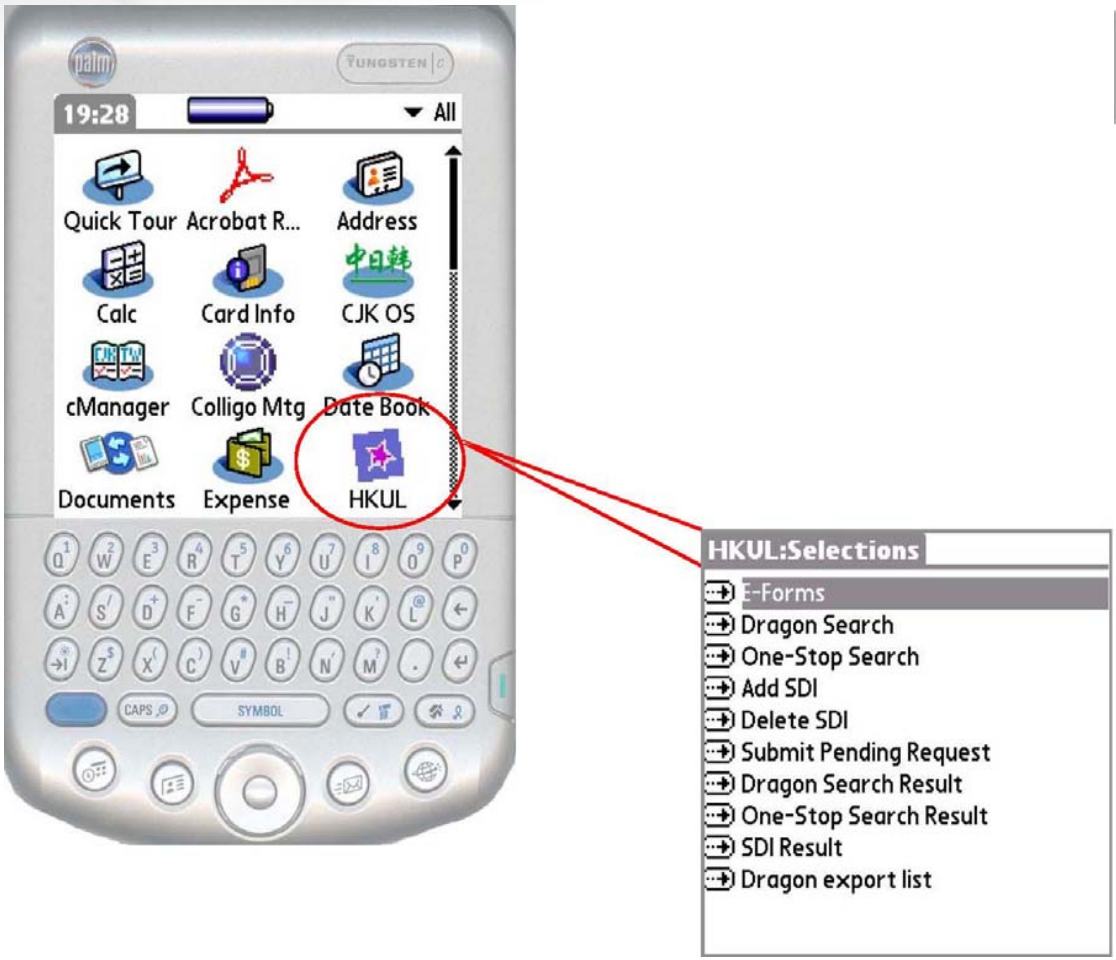

Libraries Online Information

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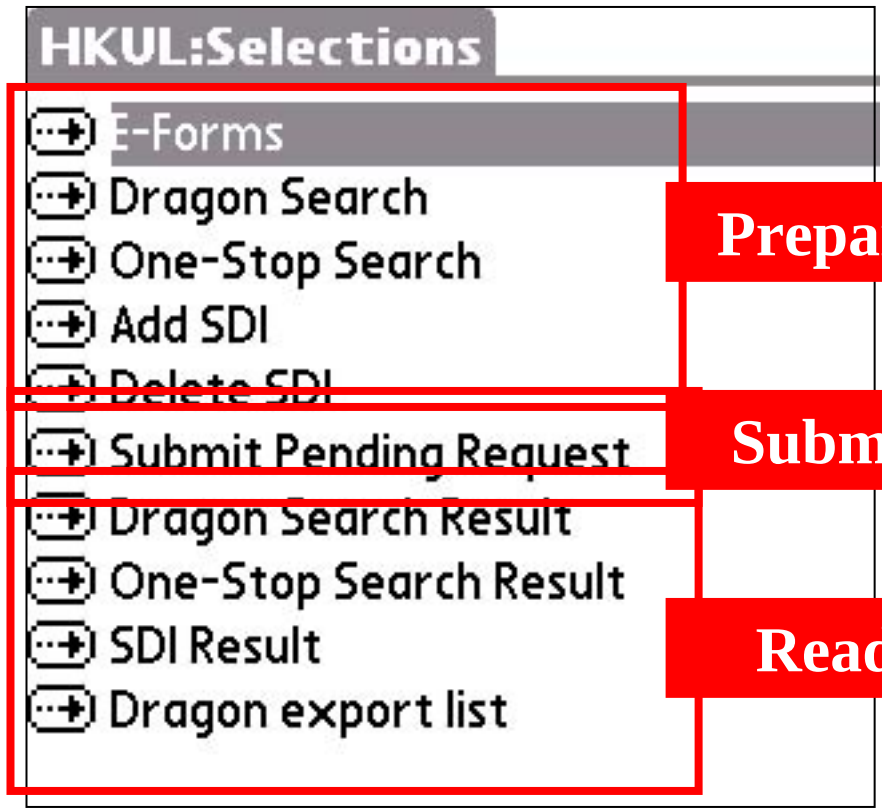

Prepare Offline

Submit Online

Read Offline

Libraries Online Information

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E-Forms

You can prepare your requests well in advance before you access an Internet wireless hotspot.

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Dragon Search

You can search statement in Dragon, HKUL catalogue. You can choose to search in a specific field, e.g. author, title

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One-Stop Search

Search articles on a topic across several databases.

Libraries Online Information

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Select your subject discipline for alert services on any new publications.

Libraries Online Information

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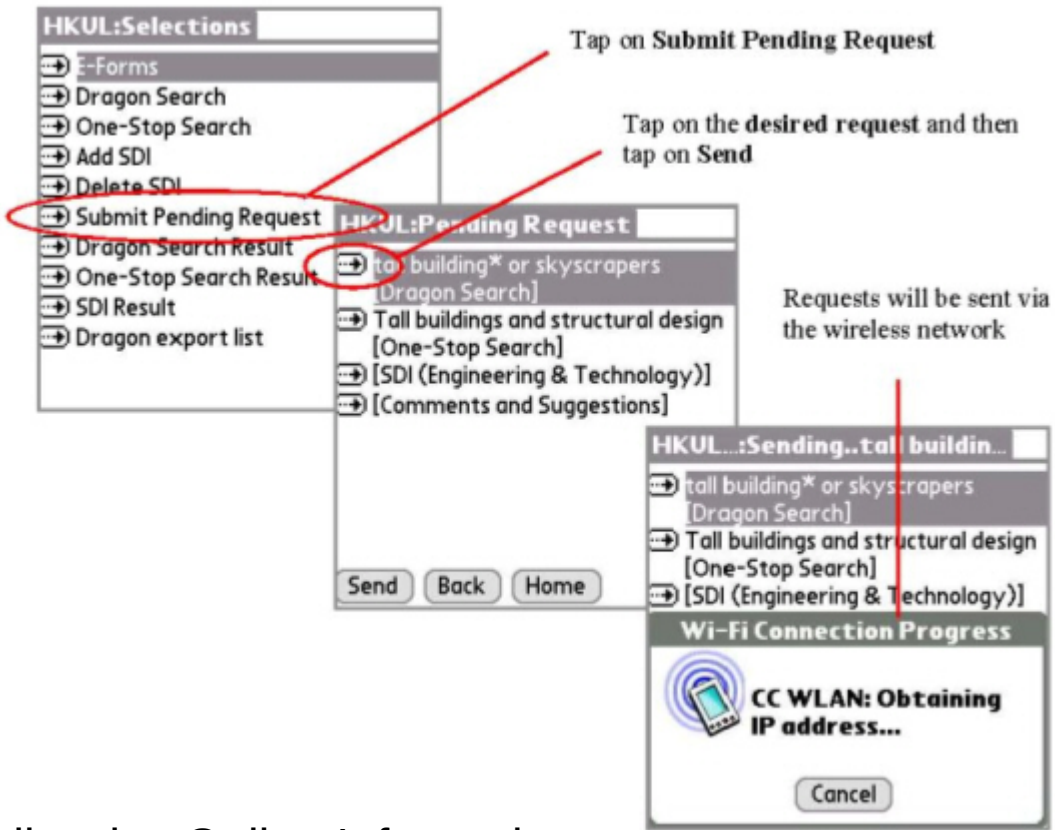

Once you are within ar Internet wireless hotspot, submit your completed e-forms and search queries by tapping on **Submit Pending Request**.

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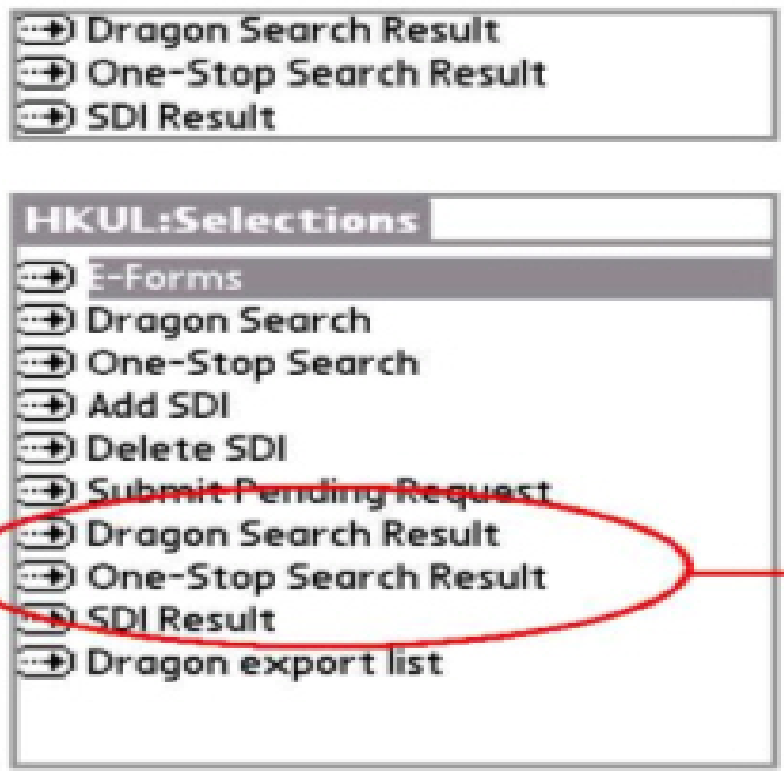

The search results will be displayed for viewing at your palm.

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Next Phase …

- Reservation and recall of library materials
- View detailed journal abstracts
- Read full text e-journals

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Other Educational Uses

- Educause Web page:
- Use of Handheld Devices and Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) in Higher Education

http://www.educause.edu/issues/issue.asp?issue=pda

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The Pebbles project is exploring how handheld devices, such as Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs) including devices running PalmOS or Pocket PCs, and mobile phones, can be used when they are communicating with a "regular" personal computer (PC), with other handhelds, and with computerized devices such as telephones, radios, microwave ovens, automobiles, and factory equipment.

- http://www-2.cs.cmu.edu/~pebbles/

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University of Iowa Business School Findings (2001)

- There is not a compelling application or reason for broad support of PDAs at this time.
- eBooks could possibly be the killer application but will not take off until the issues of digital rights management, lack of significant available content, and lack of software and hardware standardization are settled.

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- Synchronizing fresh web content to your PDA is useful and probably not too difficult
- It is too soon for PDAs to play a vitally important part in the learning experience on this campus.
- Independent support by colleges is happening and useful where PDAs make a special difference at the U of Iowa.

The University of Minnesota Duluth iPAQ Initiative

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Observation

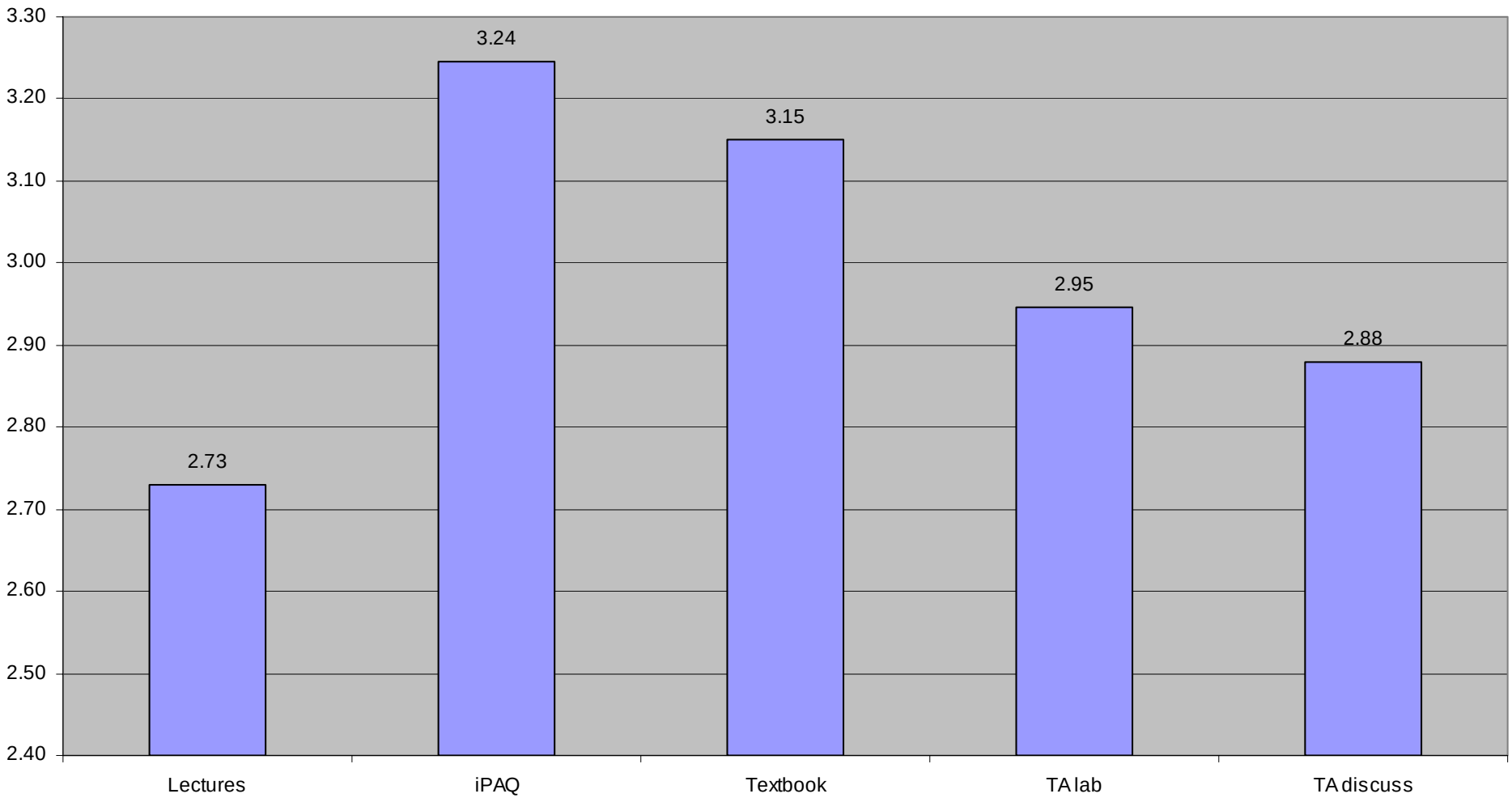
- Student reaction
  - No direct complaints
  - Survey comments
    - Justify cost vs. functionality
  - Non-iPAQ students
    - Some changed majors to get them
    - Some bought their own
    - Assumption that iPAQ students had an advantage.
- iPAQs were an asset
  - As discussion assistants
    - In conjunction with exercises or lecture
  - As reference tools
    - For programs and general study
  - As study aids
    - Interactive exercises and quizzes

Week 14 Survey

How helpful have the following resources been for you in this class?

1 No help
2 Some
3 Helpful
4 Very helpful

n = 141



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Conclusions

- It is a tool. Open for all sorts of uses
- Definitely good for taking things with you created elsewhere
- Definitely good for wireless applications
- Good for taking brief notes
- Earlier problems with keyboards and battery life have been eased considerably