



香港中文大學圖書館

The Chinese University of Hong Kong Library

# 2023/24 ANNUAL REPORT

# INTRODUCTION

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This Annual Report highlights how The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) Library continues to work in partnership to facilitate the flow of knowledge, based on the “CUHK Library 2025” strategic plan which aligns closely with the areas of focus set in “CUHK 2025”. This report is structured to reflect the Library’s Strategic Plan objectives:

*Education* – enhancing the student experience

*Research and Innovation* – advancing research support and digital scholarship

*Global and Alumni Engagement* – working in partnership

*Resources* – strengthening our collections and empowering our staff

*Infrastructure* – embracing social responsibility and sustainable development

We continue to welcome over 1.9 million visits to our libraries each year. Usage of our libraries has increased online. Annual usage of our electronic databases exceeded 20 million this year for the first time. This report illustrates the ongoing development of the library’s services, collections and facilities: we launched training support for users around AI, introduced new channels to expose CUHK research to scholars and members of the public, and developed our reputation as an innovative academic library committed to serving our community and society in Hong Kong and globally.

All of our achievements are only made possible by the dedicated work of CUHK Library staff. I would like to express my sincere gratitude for the hard work that has underpinned the accomplishments in this report.

The Library appreciates the University’s support to undertake the wide range of operations and projects that enable academic excellence across all the Faculties. Over the coming year, the Library will engage with stakeholders in preparation for renewing the Library’s Strategic Plan beyond 2025.

# EDUCATION

## Enhancing the Student Experience



*Enabling all students to develop the skills and habits to critically use data and information*

In response to the growing trend of online learning and facilitating students to engage in independent study at their own pace, the library is partnering with the Centre for Learning Enhancement and Research (CLEAR) to create a new self-paced online course for both undergraduate and postgraduate students. This course will serve as a centralised platform, compiling professional and generic skills to assist students at various stages of assignments and research projects. It is in line with the strategic plan CUHK 2025's theme of "Students taking ownership of learning and stepping out of comfort zone". Funded by the Teaching Development and Language Enhancement Grant (TDLEG) for 2022-25, the course is targeted to be launched in academic year 2025-26.



The Library's user-facing teams are closely involved in developing student skills across all our libraries, both online and in person. For instance, we consolidated 28 separate Law LibGuides into a single "Online guide for law students", which makes it easier to navigate Law materials. In our branches, Upper Campus Libraries supported student learning and faculty teaching activities by: launching the

New Asia College Publications LibGuides in August 2023; collaborating with the faculty on the academic exhibition to showcase entries from the "2022-23 Literary CUHK Essay Competition" organised by Chinese Language Teaching Development Centre of the Department of Chinese Language and Literature; and arranging five publication displays of distinguished scholars of the New Asia College and the United College.





In order to support users in the age of big data and digital information, the Library adopted a proactive approach by planning and designing training programmes to foster digital literacy among CUHK staff and students. This included conducting pre-hackathon workshops for the third annual Data Hack and inviting academic staff to participate in Digital Scholarship workshops, thereby enhancing cross-departmental collaboration and knowledge sharing.

The library has also introduced the “Using AI in Education and Research” guide to encourage responsible use of Generative AI and share best practices. This guide helps students explore AI technology in academic and research contexts. Partnering with other Joint University Librarians Advisory Committee (JULAC) libraries, a webinar titled “Elevate your scholarship: exploring Generative AI with your library” was conducted in March 2024 to enhance students’ AI knowledge and digital literacy.



## *Supporting student innovation and facilitating peer-to-peer learning*

The first Postgraduate Research & Learning Symposium, co-organised by the Graduate School, the CUHK Library and the Independent Learning Centre (ILC), was held on 18 and 19 April, 2024. The event brought together experienced educators and guest speakers to discuss with CUHK research postgraduates and taught postgraduates, from both the Shatin and Shenzhen campuses, on how to best communicate the impact of the research ideas and outputs in both written and oral means through engaging talks and parallel sessions. It also provided ample opportunities for participants across disciplines to share and network among themselves and with guest speakers in a supportive environment.

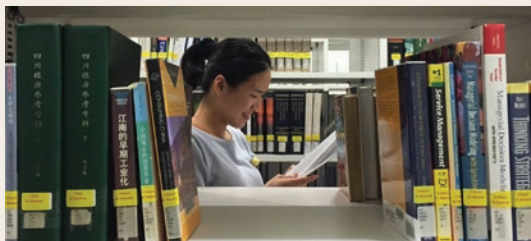


## *Developing our instructional services focusing on emerging learning technologies and innovative pedagogy*



A full-day workshop for MBA students in the Library’s Makerspace covered 3D printing, laser cutting, and UV printing to enhance innovative thinking. Faculty of Arts students engaged in 3D scanning, modelling, and printing for the 3D Printed Museum Competition. Additionally, the VR zone provided an immersive VR learning experience for the postgraduate class on space tourism.





Essential course materials were made available for 182 courses and 96 teaching staff through the Course Reserves service. A review of the Collection was conducted to ensure the collection is relevant to the teaching and learning needs of the University.

Based on the successful service model of Hong Kong Academic Library Link (HKALL) self-pickup station at the University Library, the Library enhanced the HKALL service by adding a self-pickup station at the Chung Chi College Elisabeth Luce Moore Library for users to collect reserved books from other JULAC libraries.



In summer 2024, a Chatbot feature was introduced to the WhatsApp-a-Librarian service to complement the enquiries service during unstaffed hours.

## *Ensuring our environments foster a positive library experience and cultivate students' wellbeing*

The Seminar Room, 1/F University Library, has been renovated with upgraded modern audio-visual equipment to better support teaching and learning needs



of CUHK community. The room is available to teaching staff and library staff for booking in advance for teaching and learning activities. Students may use the room for individual or group study if it is not yreserved.

Throughout the year, the Library collaborated with Office of Student Affairs (OSA)'s uPals and uBuddies programme to organise wellness zone activities at the Library, including "Solving problems through drama therapy", "Expressive art and bullet journal workshop", "Aromatherapy for stress relief workshop", etc. During the examination period, the Library and OSA's uBuddies also arranged Dr Dog visits that allowed participants to relax with lovely dogs and learn more about animal-assisted therapy. A cheer up board was also put up for students to write cheer up messages to other students at the 24-hour opening Learning Garden during examination period.



# RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

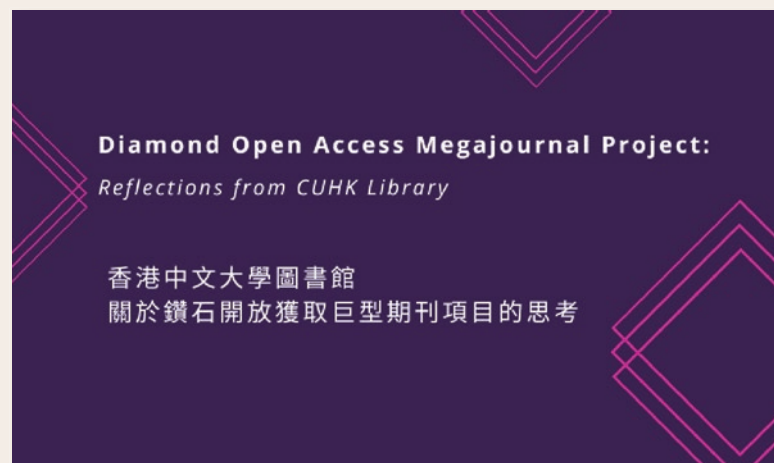
## Advancing Research Support and Digital Scholarship

### *Facilitate the transition to an Open Scholarship culture at CUHK*

**Open Books Hong Kong** The libraries and university presses of CUHK, City University of Hong Kong, and The University of Hong Kong (HKU) launched Open Books Hong Kong, the first open access initiative for Chinese-language monographs in Hong Kong. This landmark programme released nine books in humanities and social sciences in July 2024, making high-quality research freely accessible globally. Open Books Hong Kong addresses the gap in open access resources for Chinese-language scholarship and contributes to the global open knowledge movement.



**Diamond OA Megajournal Project** The Library is developing a Diamond Open Access Megajournal Project, a free-to-publish, free-to-read platform for research in the Social Sciences, Arts, and Humanities. Inspired by UCL Open: Environment, the project will focus on the Greater Bay Area and Lingnan Studies, addressing contemporary issues. A reflective report outlining our vision and approach has been released as the first step in this longer-term project. This initiative aligns with CUHK's commitment to open scholarship, fostering a research environment characterised by openness, inclusiveness, and equity.



## *Promoting the visibility and impact of CUHK research outputs*

**Open Access Publishing** The CUHK Open Access (OA) Publishing Plan aims to partially allocate Library funds used for subscriptions to pay the article processing charge (APC) involved in OA publishing on behalf of CUHK researchers. The Plan has grown substantially from having two participating publishers in 2021 to 23 in 2024, waving the APC of almost 900 articles in total.

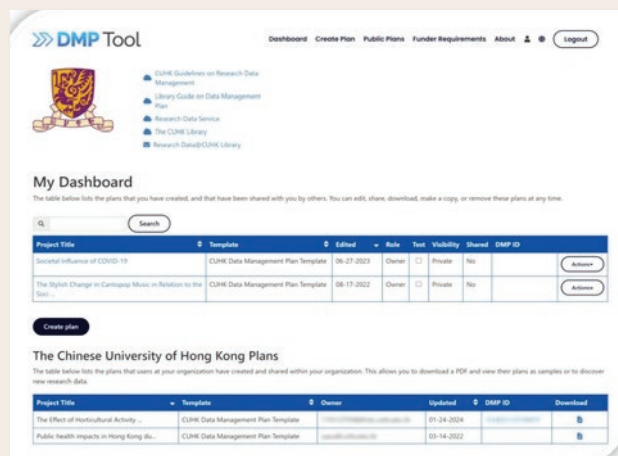


**Institutional Research Information System** The University initiated an Institutional Research Information System (IRIS) implementation project to replace the research output module of the Academic Information Management System (AIMS). The Library has participated in the project, supporting research output aspects such as data migration, system configuration, and user training. IRIS will go live in January 2025.



# Growing support services for Research Data Management (RDM)

The first Data Champions Programme rolled out in Nov 2023. At least one PhD students or staff have been recruited to promote and support RDM services in their faculties. Other activities like RDM Week, and Data Analytics Practice Opportunity were organised to boost RDM awareness.



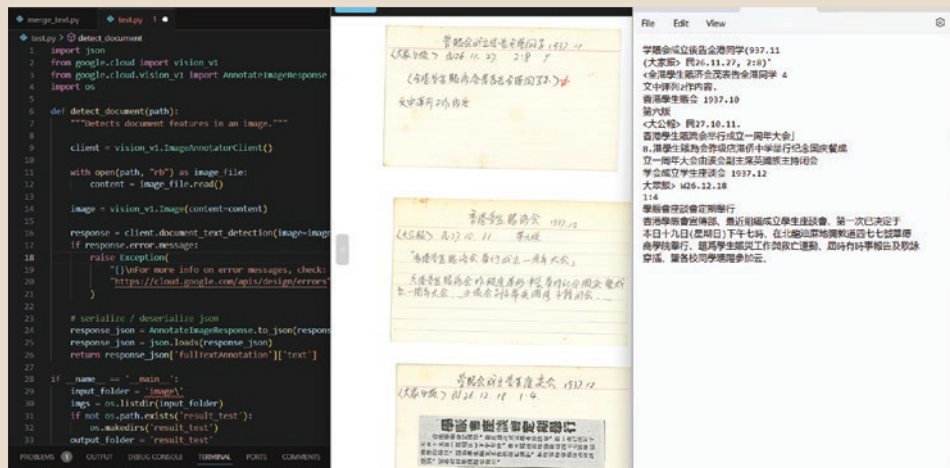
Eighteen projects were funded in the Research Data Management Fund Round 2 in 2023/24 to support individual researchers and develop good RDM practice. Each application was required to include a Data Management Plan (DMP) based on the CUHK DMP Template.

In Fall 2023, the Committee on RDM set up the Faculty Research Data Management Incentivising Programme Fund to promote good research data management practice and engage researchers and students in research data management events in each Faculty. Eight projects were funded, with an allocation of \$100,000 for each Faculty.



## Fostering emerging forms of scholarship and interdisciplinary research utilising innovative technologies

The Library has joined the collaboration in working on a new Digital Humanities initiative funded by Strategic Seed Funding for Collaborative Research Scheme by a faculty member from Department of History. The Library's Digital Initiatives team's technical expertise shone through in building capacity for advanced Digital Innovations and testing OCR applications for handwritten Chinese manuscripts.



Medical Library staff provided citation search and research consultation services for faculty staff, research staff and PG students. The Medical Librarian was also being named as co-author with faculty staff for a published article.

The Library has established an internal CUHK Library AI interest group for interested colleagues to discuss and share topics related to AI. All Professional staff were added as members and all other Library staff were invited to join. Library colleagues attended training to trial the newly released Microsoft 365 Copilot, an AI assistant that offered help while working within M365 applications. Survey responses were positive and the Library will continue to encourage experimental initiatives to support responsible AI use in information management across the university.



# GLOBAL AND ALUMNI ENGAGEMENT

## Working in Partnership

### *Strengthening and forging sustainable partnerships*

**Local partnerships** The Library was pleased to partner with Professor Rossini from the School of Architecture on his research project to reconnect people with underutilised open spaces through temporary architectural and urban interventions. The Library collaborated on two pilot projects: CWLane Reading Space (October 2023) and Ladder Street Cultural Space (April 2024) on Hong Kong Island. This collaboration involved the design, prototyping, and installation of thoughtfully curated reading areas, showcasing over 500 items from the library's collection. Both reading space installations were enthusiastically received by the public and featured in recognised international architectural magazines such as *ArchDaily*, *urbanNext* and *BauNetz CAMPUS*. CWLane Reading Space, received a Special Mention at the 2024 Architizer Awards in the Architecture + Knowledge category, as well as an Honourable Mention in the 2024 Design Educates Awards.



JULAC established a new committee on Digital Initiatives, which senior staff in CUHK Library serve on in capacities as Chair and Secretary. Consortial joint purchasing continues to be a major area of collaboration. JULAC also organised a visit to academic libraries in Guangdong in January 2024 to build exchanges with library colleagues in the Greater Bay Area.





A group of 20 CUHK Library staff visited CUHK (Shenzhen) on 8 May 2024. The welcoming party was led by CUHK(SZ) University Librarian Professor Ge Jianxiong, who greeted CUHK University Librarian Mr. Benjamin Meunier and a team of library professionals from a wide range of departments at CUHK Library. The two libraries committed to future collaboration and the University Librarian invited a reciprocal visit to Hong Kong for CUHK(SZ) Library staff later in 2024.

***Regional profile*** The Research Data Librarian of CUHK Library presented at the Young Scholars' Forum of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macau University Libraries Alliance (GHMULA) at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangdong in November 2023. The University Librarian is Vice Chair of GHMULA, a sub-group of the University Alliance. The Associate University Librarian serves as member of the Secretariat of GHMULA.

The University Librarian spoke on Open Science development at first Belt and Road Conference on Science and Technology Exchange held in Chongqing in November 2023.

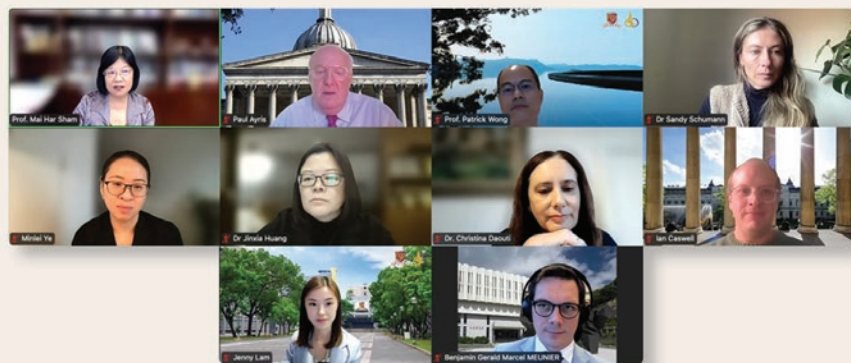


**Global visibility** This year, our Library signed or renewed agreements with Aix Marseille Université, Berlin State Library, the Chinese Academy of Sciences – National Science Library, Fudan University, Peking University Library, and Tsinghua University.

The Library's Digital Initiatives team engaged in knowledge exchange with partners such as the University of Toronto and Academia Sinica Center for Digital Cultures. CUHK Library's expertise in digital librarianship was recognised through membership in the Clarivate Academia AI Advisory Council and service as Chair and Secretary for the JULAC committee on Digital Initiatives.



The first 'Focus on Open Science Hong Kong' webinar was held in October 2023 in partnership with University College London. Over one hundred participants joined the seminar, which covered Open Access developments in Europe and in China. This area of activity continues to expand as CUHK works to facilitate exchange of ideas on the future of scholarly communications.



CUHK was elected to host the Secretariat of the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance (PRRLA) with effect from January 2025. A webinar on the Pacific Rim Library was conducted by CUHK Library in partnership with the University of Toronto in May 2024.



## *Provide support on enhancing students' global vision and career development*

The Library is a co-investigator of the inter-institutional project “Nurturing Global Citizenship Through English” funded by TDLEG. A symposium on “A Dialogue between Current Leaders of Global Citizenship and the Future Global Citizens” was held in the Library in November 2023. An inter-institutional competition “Youth in Digital Activism: Global Citizenship Advocacy Contest” was held from January to March 2024. The competition encouraged students to express their understanding of global issues, communicate positive messages to the public, and advocate feasible changes to the community in an engaging way. Students could submit their work in three categories: 3–5-minute video, photo essay with a poster, or creative art. The Library collaborates with ILC regularly to organise job hunting, interview preparation, and further studies workshop series for CUHK students.

## *Providing opportunities as a cultural heritage institution for people to connect with the Library, increasing enjoyment of our unique and distinctive collections.*

**New Publication** *Vibrant Voyage from China: Pith Paper Paintings at the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library*. This newly published album showcases the pith paper paintings collected by the CUHK Library, popular in 19th century Guangzhou. Due to their Chinese themes, affordable prices and portability, these paintings became popular souvenirs among European and American traders, collectors, and sailors residing at the port. These small pith paper paintings not only helped bridge the gap of mutual understanding between the East and the West, but also reflected the Westerners’ romantic imagination of this exotic land.



**Exhibitions** The Library continues to present a rich programme of exhibitions every year.



i. 34th Conference of the International Association of Libraries, Museums, Archives, and Documentation Centres of the Performing Arts (SIBMAS) (24-26.06.2024) Hosted by the International Association of Theatre Critics (IATC(HK)) in collaboration with CUHK Library, the SIBMAS Conference was held in CUHK. It was the first SIBMAS Conference presented in Asia, attracting over 160 participants from 24 countries and regions.



ii. Joint School Literature Day Camp (03.02.2024) The Day Camp was held at the Hong Kong Literature Hub of the University Library. The event was organised by Heep Yunn Secondary School and supported by the CUHK Library with the aim of increasing students' understanding of and interest in local literature. A total of 70 teachers and students from seven secondary schools participated in the event.



iii. Donation Ceremony of Mr. Hilton Cheong-Leen's Collection (13.11.2023) The late Mr Cheong-Leen, the first Chinese Chairman of the Urban Council and co-founder of the Hong Kong Civic Association, left an indelible mark on Hong Kong's history. In gratitude for his family's generosity, a Donation Ceremony was held in the Library. The substantial collection, spanning 1960s to 2010s, comprises over 250 letters, 100 speeches, 200 photos of Council activities, and more.



iv. "Mistaken Me Not, Forget Me Not: David Hawkes and *The Story of the Stone*. Sinologist and Translator, the Man and the Book" Exhibition (06.10.2023 - 15.03.2024) Professor David Hawkes (1923–2009) was a distinguished British Sinologist, known for his scholarly contributions, creative ingenuity, and masterful translations of Chinese literature. After his death, Professor John Minford donated Hawkes' papers to the CUHK Library. The manuscript of his *Story of the Stone* translation, bought earlier by the Research Centre for Translation, joined the Hawkes Archive in 2013. To mark Hawkes' 100th birth anniversary and the 60th anniversary of CUHK, this exhibition showcased the strong connection between Professor Hawkes and the city.



v. “Ma Hu Pao Lee Theatre – Looking at the Cultural Inheritance of Hong Kong Theatre through the Drama Collection at the Chinese University of Hong Kong Library” Exhibition (31.05.2024 - 31.12.2024) Amid postwar poverty and upheaval, cultural pioneers laid the groundwork for a better Hong Kong, including in local theatre. Four maestros including Ma Kiam, Hu Chun Ping, Pao Han Lin, and Lee Woon Wah significantly shaped the Hong Kong theatre scene. The Special Collections at the CUHK Library preserve materials that vividly illustrates their roles as organiser, educator, humorist, and practitioner respectively, and the profound impact they have had on the subsequent Hong Kong theatre culture. This exhibition showcases their valuable manuscripts, photos, and collections, illustrating their lasting impact on postwar Hong Kong theatre culture.



vi. “International Archives Week 2024: Archives Expo” (08.06.2024) The Archives Team of Special Collections participated as an exhibitor at the International Archives Week. They presented the Library’s valuable collection of archives and artefacts, and introduced their work to visitors.

**Scholarship** The Library expresses its sincere thanks to the anonymous donor who enabled the CUHK Golden Jubilee Celestial Civilian Scholarship on Hong Kong Literature. The scholarship was awarded to both graduate and undergraduate students. Recipients were Mr. Lui Tsun Chiu (Postgraduate) for his paper entitled “A Divided World: Cultural Cold War, Modernism and Wan-Kin-lau’s Poetics of the Third World” and Ms. Wong Nga Sze (Undergraduate) for her paper “Crossing the Boundaries of Elegance and Vulgarity: A Study on the Carnivalization of Yam Gong in Cantonese Poetry”.



This year, a merit award was presented to an outstanding paper “Echoes from the Other Side: The Novel Weekly and Hong Kong Modern Literature” by Ms. Yu Wing Sze (Undergraduate).

## *Developing engaging methods to tell the history of CUHK through University Archives*

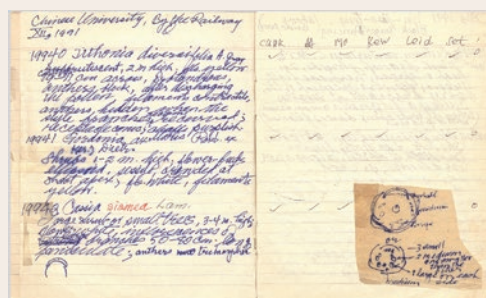
**University History Gallery** Following extensive refurbishment, the History Gallery formally re-opened on 19 September 2023, with officiating guests including Vice Chancellor (VC) Prof Tuan, former VCs Prof Lau and Prof King, and Chair of the 60th Anniversary Celebration Steering Committee Ms. Lina Yan. The Gallery featured a thematic exhibition celebrating the 60th anniversary, which includes interactive displays. Since its re-opening, the Gallery has received approximately 50,000 visitors, a significant increase from the 7,500 visitors in 2019 before the pandemic. More than 60 guided tours were conducted with over 1,000 participants. Alongside the introduction of a new virtual tour, a new gallery website hosted by the Library has been launched. The mini theatre on LG/F has been restored and is dedicated to showing videos from the 60th anniversary oral history project. The gallery is open to the public six days a week, and closed on Thursday to facilitate maintenance and special events.



## *Cultivating the growth of University Archives and launch of digital collections on the CUHK Herbarium*

As of June 2024, the archival collection has increased to a total of 584 linear feet of paper records and 910 GB of electronic files. Notable records transferred in this year included historical materials from the Vice-Chancellor's Office, Communications and Public Relations Office, Herbarium, and Professor Charles Kao's personal journals from the University Secretariat. There were also donations from faculty and the Chinese University Women Organisation.

A digital collection featuring Shiu-ying Hu Collection was launched in September. This collection complements the Harvard Library's online database, which includes Dr. Hu's early field notes.



**New Asia Library Anniversary promotion** The major project entitled 'New Asia College Ch'ien Mu Library 50th Anniversary Display: Photos, Publications and Ch'ien Mu's Manuscript of A New Academic Case of Zhu Xi' was displayed successfully from 28 August to 29 September 2023 to celebrate NAL's developments over the years.



# RESOURCES

## Strengthening Our Collections and Empowering Our Staff

### *Continuing to build comprehensive and deep collections*

**Notable donations** Notable donations received this year comprise collections from Prof. Lo Wai Luenn (盧瑋鑾教授), Mr. Hilton Cheong-Leen (張有興先生), Mr. Allen Lee (李鵬飛先生), Sir Sze Yuen Chung (鍾士元爵士), Mr. Liu Yi Chang (劉以鬯先生), and Dr. Philip H. Cheng (鄭惠和博士).



**Investment in our collections** The book fund budget was \$168.7 million, up 4.56% from the previous year due to a 4.1% inflation factor and a 6.2% increase in funds from self-financed programmes. We continue to invest in building a world-class collection.

**Development of Archival and Special Collections** The *Hong Kong Drama Collection* and *Tao Fong Shan Architecture Collection* were launched in the CUHK Digital Repository. The Library also supported the digitisation of the CUHK Oral History Project and the ICS Cantonese Literati Project.

Eight archive collections were completed, including Hilton Cheong-Leen papers, Tsar Teh-yun papers, Lin Ruheng papers, Lu Xiaoluo papers, Cheung Pui Yiu papers, Yuan Xiaoliang papers, Tang Dinghua photographs and Postbills of Cantonese Opera.

Ongoing projects include The Universities Service Centre for China Studies Collection (USC) Newspaper Digitization Project, OCR Project of the *Internal Reference*, migration of the Folk History Archive website to LibGuides, and Reclassification Project of the USC Collection.

## *Ensuring that local historical and cultural records are discoverable and accessible*

**Cataloguing** The Library's Cataloguing Department has contributed a total of 4,004 original bibliographic records and updated 8,266 holdings to the OCLC WorldCat database. The Cataloguing Team continually shares 12,182 titles to Alma Network Zone (NZ) as master records. The East Asian Languages Section dedicates a significant amount of effort to the USC Collection. The Section also completed a retrospective cataloguing project for 8,555 repository titles in Alma to enhance discoverability of our digital collections.

**Authority cataloguing** In early July 2023, Collection & Record Management (CRM) has achieved the independent status of authority cataloguing of place names on the Library of Congress Name Authority File (LCNAF). CRM began contributing and maintaining Hong Kong and China place name authority records on LCNAF for the CUHK Library. In 2023-24, CRM has established 2,341 new authority records and enhanced 721 authority records.

## *Fostering a positive workplace where staff are supported in their efforts to improve the Library*

Library staff are the lifeblood of the department, and their innovation has powered the Library's initiatives. The Library Management Group is continuing to work towards developing effective two-way communication channels and promote transparent decision-making. The CUHK Staff Survey 2025 will provide valuable information on areas for further improvement. The Staff Activities Group continues to programme a range of staff wellbeing activities, including competitions and celebrations of major festivals.



## *Cultivating evidence-based, user-centric approach to decision-making*

**LibQual+ survey** After conducting the LibQual+ survey in Spring 2023, the Library developed an Action Plan to address the feedback received. The findings and proposed action plan were reviewed and discussed by the Library User Group, with student and Faculty representatives. A report on the survey findings, with detailed analysis and responses to comments from the survey can be found on the Library webpage.

To illustrate the action taken by the Library, in the LibQual+ survey, students asked for more study spaces and more charging points. As part of our response to address the needs of our users, over 150 new study spaces opened since last year and mobile device charging stations were set up at the University Library, with some additional points installed at branches, based on positive user feedback.



**Developing Key Performance Indicators** The Library Assessment Committee (LAC) developed a set of draft key indicators, which should be effective from academic year 2025-26. The Chair of LAC will also contribute to a JULAC-wide exercise to refresh the metrics used to demonstrate the value of our academic libraries.

As detailed in the appended statistics, utilisation of our research resources is growing significantly. The total number of closed stack materials circulated in-house, surged from 53,256 last year to 105,961 in 2024. The large increase was due to the higher usage for archival collections.

The usage of Hong Kong Literature Database experienced a sharp year-on-year increase of 39% to 800,815 views.



# INFRASTRUCTURE

## Embracing Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development

### *Continuing to design, adapt and maintain a variety of innovative, technology-rich spaces*

The Library IT & Systems team prepared for the phased replacement of around 270 WiFi access points that will reach end of support in 2026. The Library also piloted provision of monitor-only stations for patrons to connect their own devices in 2024.

Branch Library ongoing refurbishment works included recarpeting, ceiling and study areas. Repainting works were completed Chung Chi Library in summer 2024. On the Upper campus: New Asia Library also was redecorated in the summer 2024 while United College Library's Outdoor Reading Area and toilets were refurbished.



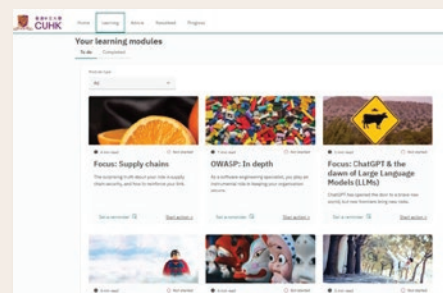
In preparation for the renovation works at the Architecture Library and the relocation of Medical Library in 2028-29, a weeding exercise was undertaken in 2023 which has resulted in a 5.5% drop in print book volumes in the Medical Library and removal of about 2000 items in Architecture for outdated reference collection, duplicated government documents, periodicals with perpetual coverage and theses.

### *Developing our IT infrastructure, working within the University's strengthened cyber security framework*

Cyber security is a focus of the Library, particularly in the wake of a major cyber security incident at the British Library in 2023. Full production of the new CUHK VPN was implemented in August 2023, with close coordination between the Library and ITSC to ensure stable access to e-resources. At the Medical Library, the network equipment and fiber network were upgraded to enhance network stability and capacity. Work was also completed to upgrade and replace the network firewall in Wu Ho Man Yuen (WMY) data centre, the University Library and branches to improve network resilience.

Mandatory Two Factor Authentication was implemented, in line with the University's policy, in October 2023 for all CUHK staff and in July 2024 for all CUHK students.

Following a trial with ITSC, the Library has been an early adopter of CybSafe, an online learning platform for information security.



## *Enabling equitable access to the library*

**Physical accessibility** Barrier-free entrances were installed both at New Asia Library and United College Library. In Chung Chi Library, a tactile guide path in LG/F lift lobby was re-installed in June 2024.

**Inclusive practice** A work placement programme for students with SEN from the English School Foundation (ESF) was established. The collaboration was a success and has significantly benefited the student. ESF had presented the Library with a certification of appreciation in recognition of the Library's effort and dedication to this programme.



A Library tour focusing on the library accessible facilities and services was provided for HKU Bachelor of Science in Information Management students.

In supporting health and service beyond academic achievement in the university, the library has hosted the CUHK Blood Donation Campaign for a number of years. In October 2023 and March 2024, CUHK Library helped collect the most blood among all the blood donation venues in CUHK.

## *Playing our part in helping the University achieve its goal of carbon neutrality by 2038*

The Library obtained both a Gold Award and Sustainable Event Management Award in the Green Office Programme ('GO!') 2023. Solar panels started to be installed on roof tops of multiple library branches in summer 2024 by Social Responsibility and Sustainable Development Office as part of the University's commitment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2038.



# LOOKING AHEAD

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The CUHK Library has had a vibrant year and is looking forward to the future. The accomplishments highlighted in this report are merely a snapshot of the daily support provided by the Library to the university community. None of this work would be possible without the dedicated and attentive work of each member of the Library staff. I would like to take this opportunity to express thanks to all colleagues across the Library: professionals, para-professionals and student helpers. The Library has pioneered some new services and information support for CUHK and for Hong Kong in line with our mission to inspire and inform members of the university. Over the coming year, the Library will continue to work in partnership with CUHK academics, fellow institutions in Hong Kong and with partners in the mainland and overseas to ensure our services and resources empower faculty and students to achieve their potential, and through this to continue to advance the university's development as a world-class institution. We look forward to working closely with the new senior leadership of the university to shape the next strategic cycle into 2026 and beyond.

**Benjamin Meunier**

University Librarian

November 2024



# CUHK LIBRARY IN FIGURES 2023/24



## *Collections Statistics*

Category	Eastern Languages	Western Languages	Total
Books	1,376,657	1,216,184	2,592,841
Bound Periodicals	76,487	204,876	281,363
Current Printed Serials	1,917	1,335	3,252
Electronic Books	4,113,375	2,054,672	6,168,047
Electronic Journals	59,250	165,832	225,082
Electronic Databases	259	1,210	1,469

## *Library Users and Visitors*

Visits to the Libraries	1,978,010
Registered Library Users	66,290

## *Others*

Library Website Views	2,692,892
CUHK Digital Repository Views	1,615,451
CUHK Research Portal Views	292,067
CUHK Archival Collections Portal Views	49,376
Self-learning Materials Views (e.g. LibGuides, FAQ)	575,236
ReadingList Views	182,748
CUHK Research Data Repository Views	35,361

## *Library Activities*

Library Orientations	108
Participants in Library Orientations	5,714
Library Workshops	242
Participants in Library Workshops	6,183
Enquiries	72,250
Special Collections Visits	616

## *Library Usage*

Database Usage*	9,348,777
E-Book Usage*	1,493,479
E-Journal Usage*	8,868,799
E-A/V Usage*	498,784
Print Book and AV Loans	298,885

\* COUNTER compliant usage only. COUNTER is the international standard for counting online usage of electronic resources

## *Library Facilities*

Seats	4,498
24/7 Seats	1,491
Public Computers	433
Public Computer Logins	198,151
Wireless Network Access Point	316
Group/Individual Study Room	124
Group/Individual Study Room Bookings	63,921

## *JULAC Activities*

CUHK Users Registered for a JULAC Card	3,656
JULAC Users Registered for a CUHK Library Card	2,147
Loans to CUHK Users from other JULAC Libraries	6,836
CUHK Library Loans to Other JULAC Users	7,614