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Programmes to Enhance International Interests and Cultural Exchange at City University of Hong Kong

By Bethany Wilkes

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), China is a vibrant area that has the reputation of being one of the most exciting and international cities in Asia. City University of Hong Kong (CityU) strives to contribute to this atmosphere and enhance the international experience of our students. One of the stated Goals in our Strategic Plan is to “enhance students’ international perspectives, global awareness and multicultural sensitivity” (City University of Hong Kong, n.d., p.34). At Run Run Shaw Library (the library at CityU) we offer a variety of activities to students in order to support this Goal and to stimulate an environment of international exchange. Three of these activities are our recently launched Library Orientation Sessions for Non-local Undergraduate Students, the Outstanding Academic Papers by Students (OAPS) project, and art exhibitions. By making these opportunities available to students we hope to cultivate



A librarian leads the Library Orientation for Non-local Students.

an atmosphere of inclusion and cultural exchange in order to contribute to our students’ education and broaden their perspectives.

As our non-local (students from mainland China plus international students) student population continues to increase, it has become evident that these students face unique challenges when first using the Library. We launched the Library Orientation Sessions for Non-local Undergraduate Students in 2011. In addition to introducing non-local

students to the library and addressing some of their challenges, we used the Sessions as an opportunity for non-local students to meet helpful librarians. The Sessions were delivered in English or Mandarin (Putonghua), in an attempt to add to students’ comfort. (English is the language of instruction at CityU, and native language of the local students is Cantonese). The sessions were well-received, and most were filled to capacity. The Sessions provided students with direc-

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Message from the Editor

Academic libraries are always in search of ways to work with other departments on campus and enhance their students' learning experience. Bethany Wilkes of the Run Run Shaw Library at the City University of Hong Kong opens this issue with details on how the library has worked to enhance students' international perspectives, global awareness, and multicultural sensitivity.

International travel provides excellent opportunities to experience other cultures, and what better way to do so than to attend a conference abroad. Rebecca K. Miller received a Bogle Pratt International Travel award to attend the Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference in Glasgow, Scotland and to present a paper on information literacy.

Organizations in developing and transitioning countries, may want to check out the call for membership to the Beyond Access initiative. Those interested in Arabic language resources may want to take advantage of the new al-hakawati.net Arabic language digital library.

Interested in children's literature? The USBBY has released its 2012 honor list of books for young people. Did you receive an iPad over the holidays? The International Children's Digital Library now has an app to view its extraordinary collection of books in 54 local languages.

The schedule for IRC/IRRT meetings is included. Two programs are highlighted: The Chair's Program: Mātauranga Māori in New Zealand Libraries and also Of Mutual Benefit: The Sister Library Initiative and International Sustainable Library Development (ISLD).

Did you know that ISLD was an outgrowth of Returned Peace Corps Volunteers who wanted to share common experiences and ongoing projects in library development? In addition to sponsoring a program at the conference, the group also meets for lunch on Saturday at noon. Check out the website for information on this year's location. Anyone interested in sustainable development is welcome to attend.

~ Janet Lee

Call for Submission

Do you have news about...

International library activities?

People in international librarianship?

Upcoming international conferences?

International partnerships between libraries?

Then why not submit it to *International Leads*?
Send your news to intl.leads.irrt@gmail.com
for consideration.

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tion and help for meeting their information needs in addition to a supportive and welcoming environment.

Another student-focused activity is our Outstanding Academic Papers by Students (OAPS) project. OAPS was initiated in 2005 and encourages scholarship and international exchange. Eleven universities from around the world participate in the project, representing mainland China, Japan, Singapore, Thailand, Taiwan, and the United States. Academic Departments from the participating universities select papers from students, primarily undergraduates, that they consider exceptional. These papers are included in the universities' digital collections, and many are open access. Students are encouraged to view one another's papers to learn from their peers and to explore the treatment of subjects by students from other cultures. To recognize the students' success we hold an annual OAPS Certificate Awarding Ceremony. During the Ceremony invited guests, such as representatives from the international universities, act as facilitators for sessions during which students share their experiences of writing their papers. Certificates are presented to the students by their professors. The Ceremony is held in order to recognize students' achievement and to foster an atmosphere of scholarship and international exchange. By participating in the



The Chinese Calligraphy cum Exhibition of the Calligraphy Works of Dr Sze Chi-ching exhibition

OAPS project, CityU Library supports the development of students' global perspectives and understanding.

Our Multi-purpose Lobby serves as a venue for interdisciplinary exhibitions which often highlight art forms from different cultures. During 2011 the venue served as a space for the Mike Knowles & Veronica Knowles: Where the Light Lies Painting Exhibition, which was organized by the University's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Hong Kong Advanced Institute for Cross-Disciplinary Studies. The exhibition featured over 60 paintings by the Knowles, renowned artists from the United Kingdom. The paintings included landscapes and gardens, reflecting their home country. Another art exhibition hosted in the Multi-purpose Lobby in 2011 was Chinese Calligraphy cum Exhibition of the Calligraphy Works of Dr Sze Chi-ching. This exhibition highlighted Chinese culture, as calligraphy is a major traditional art form. The Library developed an accompanying website (<http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/>

[about/event/ch_calligraphy/](http://www.cityu.edu.hk/lib/about/event/ch_calligraphy/)), supplemental resources, movie screenings, and a calligraphy talk and workshop by Professor Kuo-ching Yu, Associate Curator of the National Palace Museum, followed by a learning assessment. By offering these types of activities and exhibitions, we can contribute to students' exposure to various art forms from different countries and cultures.

Libraries can foster students' international interests in different ways, spanning from collection development to specialized services. Tailor-made Library Orientation Sessions for Non-local students, the OAPS project, and art exhibitions are a few of the strategies that we use to foster international curiosity and appreciation in our students. The Run Run Shaw Library hopes to be an integral part of our University's efforts to create a multicultural environment that stimulates interest in the global community.

Bethany Wilkes
Coordinator, Reference
& Instruction Section
Run Run Shaw Library

IRC/IRRT MEETINGS

Annual Conference 2012

FRIDAY, June 22

Innovative Practices: Developing Sustainable Programs,
Mobilizing Support for Your Library! - IRRT Precon-
ference

8:30 am - 1:00 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr - 201C

International Relations Committee I

1:30 pm - 3:30pm
Hilton Anaheim - Malibu

International Librarians Orientation

2:30 pm - 4:00pm
Hilton Anaheim - California B

SATURDAY, June 23

IRC/IRRT All Subcommittee Meeting

8:00 am - 11:00 am
Anaheim Marriott - Grand Salon F

Building libraries for the future - Best practices from East
Asia

10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Hilton Anaheim - Capistrano

IFLA Update

11:00 am - 12:00 noon
Anaheim Marriott - Orange County Salon 1-2

Expecting the Unexpected: Libraries Respond to Profound
Change - International Paper Session

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr - 202B

Spanish E-Publishing

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr - 202B

SUNDAY, June 24

IRRT Executive Committee Meeting

8:30 am - 11:00 pm
Anaheim Marriott - Room 315

Digital Humanities in Eurasia

10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr. - 203A

International Poster Session - Exhibit Floor

11:00 am - 12:30 pm

Dancing at the Revolution?: Libraries and the Arab Spring
Uprisings

10:30 am - 12:00 pm
Anaheim Marriott - Platinum 7

Empowering the People! Libraries and the Attainment of
an Information Society in Africa

1:30 pm - 3:30pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr - 203A

Library Development in Emerging Economies: Policies
and Practices on the Global Scene

4:00 pm - 5:30 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr. - 203A

MONDAY, June 25

How Taiwan Maximizing Information Services through
Public Libraries, Digitalization, LIS Education, Infor-
mation Literacy, Library Association, and Globalizing

8:00 am - 10:00 am
Anaheim Conv. Ctr. - 213C

Of Mutual Benefit: The Sister Library Initiative and Inter-
national Sustainable Library Development (ISLD)

10:30 am - 12:00 noon
Anaheim Conv. Ctr. - 201C

Proving our relevance: a comparison of European and
American assessment practices

10:30 am - 12:00 noon
Anaheim Conv. Ctr - 202A

Mātauranga Māori in New Zealand Libraries: A presen-
tation and workshop on Maori knowledge in New
Zealand libraries-IRRT Chair's Program - IRRT Chair's
Program

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr. - 205A

International Relations Committee II

1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Anaheim Conv. Ctr. - 211A

International Librarians Reception

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm
MUZEO

Beyond Access, An Initiative for Global Development

Interested in joining a global community of public library innovators aiming to change outdated perceptions of what libraries can do in developing and transitioning countries? Consider becoming a member of the Beyond Access initiative.

Beyond Access is an initiative of IREX, EIFL, IFLA, Makaia, Civic Regeneration, TASCHA, the Riecken Foundation, and READ Global, with support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Membership to Beyond Access is intended for public library innovators in developing and transitioning countries who are interested in participating in an initiative to showcase how libraries are contributing to development goals and learning from other leaders in the

field. Beyond Access is seeking library workers who are partnering with governments and development organizations to meet community needs in education, health, agriculture, economic opportunity, and civic participation. Applicants who demonstrate an existing focus on community development, and who can make a commitment to active participation are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through July 15, 2012. Selected members will be announced on the following dates: June 30, 2012 and July 31, 2012.

Beyond Access Members will:

- attend the Beyond Access 2012 Conference in Washington, DC in October 2012 along with a regional or

national government partner (expenses will be paid by Beyond Access)

- be eligible for grants competitions at and after the Conference to support scaling initiatives and strengthening partnerships with government
- participate in a series of discussions and events leading up to the Conference

- receive support and expertise in expanding partnerships with governments, development organizations and other community stakeholders.

To learn more about the initiative and find a list of organizations already selected, visit the website <http://www.beyondaccess.net/>, like it on Facebook, or follow it on twitter (@Beyond_Access).

Joint Program of the Sister Library Initiative and the International Sustainable Library Development (ISLD) Interest Group

Of Mutual Benefit: The Sister Library Initiative and International Sustainable Library Development (ISLD)

Monday, June 25 10:30 a.m. Location: Anaheim Conv. Ctr. 201 C

Sister Library partnerships provide a mutual source of pride, opportunity, and inspiration between two institutions. Come and listen to ALA librarians from academic

and public libraries discuss their Sister Library partnerships with libraries from around the world and how these initiatives enhance global awareness, facilitate intercultural communication, and increase the sustainability of library programs and services.

Speakers and Partner Libraries:

- Carol Hodges, Tidewater Community College. Puerta Abierta Library, Santiago Atit-

lán, Guatemala

- Nancy Bolt, Nancy Bolt & Associates Consulting and former Colorado State Librarian and Jamie Larue, Director of Douglas County Libraries, Colorado. Bulgarian Library Project

- John Boyd and Beth Cramer, Appalachian State University. La Biblioteca Th'uruchapitas, Cochabamba, Bolivia.

LILAC Conference: Perspectives from a Bogle Pratt Awardee

By Rebecca K. Miller

When most people think of Scotland, haggis, whisky, bagpipes, kilts, and castles may come to mind. After my experience at the Librarians' Information Literacy Annual Conference (LILAC) 2012 in Glasgow, Scotland during April 2012, I now associate Scotland with great conversations, innovative information literacy ideas, and new colleagues.

As the information literacy coordinator at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, VA, I have long been aware of LILAC and the prestige it has gained in the international library community. LILAC, which began in 2005, is sponsored by the Information Literacy Group that is part of the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP), the leading professional body of librarians in the United Kingdom; however, attendees (delegates) come from as far away as Africa, Asia, Scandinavia, and North and South America.

When the proposal that I submitted for LILAC 2012 was accepted, I was thrilled to be able to participate in an international conversation surrounding information literacy. The level of excitement was matched only by the level of gratitude that I felt when I found out that my travel to Scotland for the conference would be supported by the Bogle Pratt International Travel Fund. Because of this generous award, I was able to



Rebecca K. Miller @rebeccakmiller

12 Apr

Presenting in the next round of parallel sessions at #lilac12 ... So excited to talk about my VT HNFE friends and our exciting work!

Speakers and participants tweeted throughout the conference.

participate in opportunities that would not otherwise have been possible: sharing my ideas with an international audience, gleaned new ideas from world-renowned leaders, and making new connections.

The paper that I presented was entitled, "Aligning Information Literacy with Curricular Standards and Engaging Students: A Case Study of Social Information in Dietetics." My paper detailed some of collaborative projects I have initiated with faculty and students in Virginia Tech's Department of Human Nutrition, Foods, and Exercise. It will be submitted for a future issue of the *Journal of Information Literacy*, the journal associated with LILAC. I also had the great pleasure of hearing from international leaders in the fields of education and communication, including Dr. Megan Oakleaf, Lord Puttnam of Queensgate (known for producing *Chariots of Fire* and other award-winning films), and Dr. Tara Brabazon.

Finally, the friends that I made in Glasgow made the whole experience even more memorable. I connected with many Americans whom I had not yet met in person, but rather whom I met via Twitter prior to the conference. The formal dinner, held at Glasgow's Old

Fruitmarket in the Glasgow City Centre, offered another opportunity to socialize with librarians on a more casual level. My biggest takeaway from the conference, though, was the deep conviction that information literacy is a global concern—the librarians that I met from Sweden, Greece, England, and Africa all shared my desire to help today's students gain the skills and knowledge they need to function as global citizens.

As I return to normal life in Blacksburg, VA, I do so with many new professional connections and many new ideas for improving my teaching and Virginia Tech's information literacy program. I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the ALA International Relations Office and the 2012 Bogle Pratt International Library Travel Fund Committee for their valuable support.

More information about LILAC 2012 is available: <http://lilacconference.com>.

*Rebecca K. Miller is
Information Literacy
Coordinator at Virginia Tech
in Blacksburg, VA*

2012 USBBY Outstanding International Books

Beginning in 2006 United States Board on Books for Young People has selected an honor list of international books for young people. The USBBY Outstanding International Books List is published each year in the February issue of *School Library Journal* and as a bookmark.

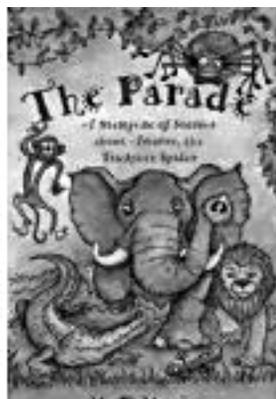
The Outstanding International Books (OIB) committee is charged with selecting international books that are deemed most outstanding of those literary and artistic merit. For the purposes of this honor list, the term "international book" is used to describe a book published or distributed in the United States that originated or was first published in a country other than the U.S. For a full list of titles click on: http://www.usbby.org/list_oibl.html

A sampling of the honor winners follows:

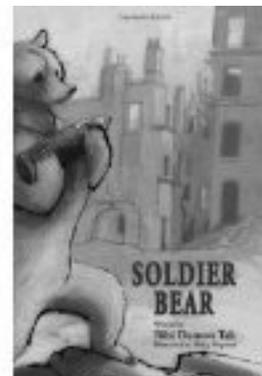
Grades K-2 Tullet, Hervé
Press Here. Chronicle (France)



Grades 3-5 Kojo, KP.
The Parade: A Stampede of Stories About Ananse, the Trickster Spider. Frances Lincoln, (UK/set in Ghana)



Grades 6-8 Dumon Tak, Bibi. *Soldier Bear*. Eerdmans. (Netherlands/set in Iran & Italy).



Grades 9-12 Brooks, Kevin. *iBoy*. Chicken House/Scholastic. (UK)



There's an App for that! The ICDL Goes Mobile

The much-acclaimed International Children's Digital Library (ICDL) now has an app to view its worldwide collection of children's books on mobile devices such as the iPad and the iPhone. Users of these mobile devices have access to thousands of children's books from 64 countries, beautifully illustrated with text in over 54 local languages.

Brought to the reader by the University of Maryland's (UMD) College of Information Studies and UMD Human

Computer Interaction Lab in 2002, the ICDL has expanded its award-winning search engine from desktop and laptop to the iPhone and iPad allowing the reader access to a full range of children's stories wherever he or she has internet access.

The ICDL for iPad application features ICDL's Popout-Text technology, simple online navigation, and one or two page viewing using the iPad "auto rotation" feature. The Popout-Text technology enlarges the text for easy viewing, espe-



cially in the local languages. The pages automatically fill the screen in single page view or double page view depending on how the device is held allowing for page-by-page comparison or an enlarged view. For more information check out: <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

New Arabic Language Resource Available

al-hakawati.net, an Arabic language digital library, is proud to announce the release of its new website this spring. The release will feature a redesigned interface and enhanced search features.

al-hakawati is the Arabic word for “the storyteller”, and al-hakawati.net tells the story of Arab heritage and civilization through folktales and fairy tales from the Arab and Islamic past, through biographies of personalities ancient to modern, artists and their arts, architecture, the environment, religions, and more.

The content of al-hakawati covers the 22 Arab states, members of the Arab League. The content is arranged thematically

in ten sections, each with several subsections. New entries are regularly added.

al-hakawati is a free educational resource and reference, and offers an invaluable resource for librarians, teachers, researchers, and students interested in learning about the Arab world. al-hakawati also welcomes readers' contributions to the content.

Contact editor@al-hakawati.net with inquiries or submissions.

al-hakawati is a project of the Arab Cultural Trust, an independent non-profit educational organization based in Cape May, New Jersey and Beirut, Lebanon.

Mātauranga Māori in New Zealand Libraries: Chair's Program

Te Ropu Whakahau will be the featured presenter at the IRRT Chair's Program on Monday, June 25 at 1:30 pm., Anaheim Conv. Ctr.-205A. Te Ropu Whakahau was one of the recipients of the Presidential Citations for International Library Projects in the award's inaugural year (Anaheim, 2008).

Te Ropu Whakahau is an organization that unites Māori librarians and information specialists in Aotearoa New Zealand. Te Rōpū Whakahau was born from a need to provide professional and cultural support to Māori who worked in libraries throughout New Zealand.

For more information on Te Ropu Whakahau: <http://www.trw.org.nz/>



al-hakawati

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