Tsinghua opens new Humanities and Social Sciences Library

Much effort at the Tsinghua Library in the past six months has been put into getting ready for Tsinghua University’s centennial anniversary. We opened the new Humanities and Social Sciences Library on Apr. 23rd, 2011 as a part of the celebration. Directors of libraries from China and many international universities, as well as dignitaries from several countries were invited to the ceremony.

With a large collection of books, including the URIS collections from Cornell, special collections, a comfortable environment for reading, a flexible style of service and convenient facilities, the Humanities and Social Sciences Library serves and supports faculty and students in their study and research. This new facility is "a gift from our generation to future generations", said the architect Mario Botta. The library is shaped like a key, symbolizing the golden key to knowledge. It is a remarkable step in the history of Tsinghua.
Anne Kenney, the University Librarian of Cornell, spoke at the ceremony. She said “I can think of no finer way to celebrate a century of excellence than to open a library!”, then she reviewed the decade-long friendship between our two libraries. Mr. Stephan Loewentheil, a friend of the Cornell Library has donated 2,133 volumes to Tsinghua’s new library. His generosity and friendship is very much appreciated by Tsinghua.

**Academic Forum —— Construction & Development of Research Libraries in 21st Century**

Academic Forum “Construction & Development of Research Libraries in 21st Century” was held on Apr. 23nd, 2011, more than 60 domestic and foreign University Librarian and experts attended the seminar. Director Deng Jingkang and Deputy Director Jiang Airong hosted the forum, the forum keynote presentations included the following topics:

- **Architecture and City**  
  *By Mario Botta, Architect of Humanities and Social Sciences Library of Tsinghua*

- **Serving the Needs of the University in Education and Research**  
  *By Anne Kenney, University Librarian of Cornell University Library*

- **The Special Collections at Oxford**  
  *By Dr. Sarah Thomas, Bodley’s Librarian and Director of University Library Services at Oxford University*

- **Developments of University Libraries in Japan at Present and in the Future**  
  *By Prof. Noe Keiichi, Director of Tohoku University Library*
Library Activities to Celebrate University Centennial Anniversary

To Celebrate Tsinghua University Centennial Anniversary, Tsinghua University Library has planned and successfully implemented five projects, including the celebration ceremony, publications, exhibitions, scholarly activities and construction of the library culture environment.

One of the activities, opening the oldest closed stacks, was warmly welcomed by readers and visitors. The library designed a beautiful nostalgic poster and to publicize this activity in many ways, 54 student volunteers were recruited to guide the visitors. A total of 3903 visitors attended this 3-days event and left 491 messages. This activity gave visitors a more intuitive understanding of the history and current status of Tsinghua University Library, and appreciative of Tsinghua's cultural heritage.

Technical Services-New Approach to Interact with Readers

Tsinghua University Library always values reader communication and interaction, and is always looking to introduce new technologies and methods. Recently, Library Twitter on Sina and the Intelligent Chat Robot named “Xiao Tu”, were introduced and these new applications received a great response from readers, especially the young students.