Welcome to the  
Lee Wee Nam Library!

Official Launch of the  
Lee Wee Nam Library @ NTU

Launch of the Lee Wee Nam Library

In recognition of the generous donation on 19 June 2001 of $10 million from Lee Hiok Kee Pte Ltd for the Lee Wee Nam Endowment Fund in Life Sciences, Nanyang Technological University renamed one of its libraries, Library 1, after the late Mr Lee Wee Nam, founder of the company.

2 November 2001 marked the University’s first naming of a major building, the Lee Wee Nam Library, since NTU’s establishment of the endowment fund in 1991. The state-of-the-art library has just completed an upgrading facelift of $2.5 million and the renaming ceremony was timely. The ceremony was officiated by NTU Pro-Chancellor Mr Hsuan Owyang, and NTU President Dr Cham Tao Soon. Members of the Lee family including Dr Lee Hiok Huang and Mr Lee Hiok Woon, executive directors of Lee Hiok Kee Pte Ltd, were in attendance to witness the ceremony.

In his opening speech, Mr Hsuan Owyang highlighted to the guests on the history of the late Mr Lee Wee Nam and his many contributions and achievements. Mr Hsuan

Dexterine Ho Soo Miang
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said, “The spirit of philanthropy was very much his (Mr Lee Wee Nam) personal value and the spirit of giving to education is upheld passionately by the Lee Hiok Kee Pte Ltd, the company Mr Lee has founded.” Dr Cham Tao Soon, in his welcome speech, spoke of the many facilities available in the Lee Wee Nam Library and thanked Dr Lee Hiok Huang and members of the Lee family for making this occasion possible.

Dr Lee Hiok Huang spoke of his father’s lifelong hobby of reading. As Dr Lee said, “On behalf of the Lee family, I wish to thank NTU for naming this magnificent building and state-of-the-art library in honour of our father, the late Mr Lee Wee Nam, founder of Lee Hiok Kee Pte Ltd. The choice is most appropriate as reading was my father’s lifelong hobby and we, in our young days, have learned a lot from his story-telling of famous Chinese fables.”

NTU is grateful to the late Mr Lee Wee Nam and his family for their support and contribution to education and research. The university hopes that the launching of the Lee Wee Nam Library will epitomise the values and philanthropy of the late Mr Lee, and instil the value of education in our future generations.

**The Exhibition**

The launch ceremony on 2 November also featured an exhibition of the Lee’s family collection of artifacts. Exhibits included a rare display of old photographs, calligraphy scrolls and paintings, porcelain and silver artifacts, news clippings and seals.

Some of the photographs dated as far back as the 1930s, depicting the late Mr Lee in his various roles as a banker in the Sze Hai Tong Bank (the oldest Chinese bank in Singapore in the 1930s) and as a well-respected community leader serving the Teochew Huay Kuan for 18 years. This exhibition was opened to the public for three weeks, from 2 to 24 November 2001.

**Unveiling of Bronze Sculpture**

A bronze sculpture of the late Mr Lee was unveiled at the launch ceremony. The sculpture is now permanently displayed at the library lobby in respect of Mr Lee’s valuable contributions as a community leader, philanthropist and entrepreneur, and for his strong support for education.

Famous sculptor Mr Chern Lian Shan and renowned Chinese calligrapher Mr Tan Siah Kwee were both commissioned by NTU to sculpture the bronze bust for the respectable Mr Lee Wee Nam. The bust was moulded in Singapore and cast in Taiwan. It took 3 months for Mr Chern to complete the making of it. Mr Tan, who is president of the Singapore Chinese Calligraphy Society, calligraphed the inscriptions on the bust stand. He also calligraphed the new name of the Library located at the library entrance.
Earlier Launch of the Lee Wee Nam Endowment Fund in Life Sciences on 19 June 2001

Lee Hiok Kee Pte Ltd donated a sum of $10 million to the NTU Endowment Fund at a ceremony held at the Istana on Tuesday 19 June 2001. President S R Nathan, Chancellor of Nanyang Technological University and Patron-in-Chief of the NTU Fund received the benefaction. The benefaction was made in memory of the late Mr Lee Wee Nam, founder of Lee Hiok Kee Pte Ltd, and also in recognition of Mr Lee’s strong support for education.

The donation was made to establish an endowment in the field of life sciences. The Lee Wee Nam Endowment Fund is earmarked with $7.5 million for Research in Life Sciences and $2.5 million for a Professorship in Life Sciences; both funds endowed in the name of Mr Lee. This is the largest donation received so far by NTU from a company in the private sector since the NTU Endowment Fund was established in 1991. The donation was matched by the Government dollar-for-dollar and the NTU Endowment Fund thus received a financial boost of $20 million.

NTU is embarking on new initiatives for life sciences education and research. A new building with state-of-the-art facilities for the School of Biological Sciences will be built in NTU by the year 2003 and NTU is currently recruiting key academic staff for the new school. The income generated from the invested Lee Wee Nam Endowment Fund will enable NTU to appoint visiting professors of international eminence to teach, give public lectures and undertake research in the field of life sciences. It will contribute towards NTU’s efforts to become a centre of excellence in life sciences education and research.

Community Contributions of the late Mr Lee Wee Nam

Mr Lee Wee Nam was a hardworking and highly-respected businessman deeply committed to education and community causes. Mr Lee’s life and achievements are inspiring.
Mr Lee Wee Nam was born in China in 1880. Being the son of a coffin maker, he was an illiterate and the family was poor. In 1896, he arrived in Singapore as a young man without any formal education. In his first job here, he earned a salary of only two dollars a month. Through sheer hard work and diligence he showed his worth and capability to others. By 1932 he had become chairman of the Sze Hai Tong Banking & Insurance Company Ltd and he went on to own businesses in Singapore and Malaysia. He was elected president of the Singapore Chinese Chamber of Commerce in 1929, president of the Ngee Ann Kongsi, and president of various schools and associations in subsequent years.

Mr Lee Wee Nam was concerned about education for the young and for women. In 1940, Mr Lee was president-cum-trustee of Tuan Mong School. While still serving as president of the Ngee Ann Kongsi, Mr Lee proposed the setting up of Ngee Ann Girls’ School to meet the needs of the Teochew community as there was no girls’ school for young Teochew women at that time. His proposal received overwhelming support and he was elected the first chairman of the school. Later, Mr Lee was also invited to serve in the committee of the Chinese High School and Nan Hwa Girls’ School. He also supported Nanyang University, whose graduates today are NTU’s alumni, and was invited to the university’s first convocation ceremony held in 1960. Mr Lee Wee Nam passed away in 1964 at the age of 84.

Acknowledgement:
All artifacts, calligraphies and painting are displayed with the courtesy of the family of the late Mr Lee Wee Nam.

Source of information:
Viewing the Lee Wee Nam Exhibition:
(from L to R) Mr Lee Hiok Chuan & Mr Hsuan Owyang.

Mr Lee Hiok Chuan admiring the painting of his late father Mr Lee Wee Nam.

(from L to R) Dr Lee Hiok Huang, Mr Hsuan Owyang & Mr Lee Hiok Chuan.
Research Facilities & Reading Areas

Services

Collections

Print Resources available in the Library

Project Reports

Electronic Resources delivered via IGEMS

NTU Publications

Nanyang Technological University

E-Books

Databases

Communication Studies

Engineering
From: Assafa Endeshaw (Assoc Prof)  
Sent: Tuesday, November 20, 2001 3:34 PM  
To: Akbar Hakim  
Subject: The web link to the library

Dear Akbar,

I just wanted to say how wonderful it was for the library to put its weblink on the NTU webpage! This is extraordinary because in the past you have to crawl and crawl to find the library. The library happens to be the most actively and frequently accessed site and hence to put it on the first webpage was brilliant.

I have long argued for making the library resources more accessible. The old library web pages lacked this to a certain extent as one would have to wander around before getting to the more frequently accessed spots, OPAC or the databases. My advice is that one should monitor what are the most frequently accessed and move them up the ladder so that users are encouraged rather than upset etc...

Anyway this is to cast my vote for the new look (whether or not you are in charge)

Assafa

From: Sivakumar Appa Iyer, Siva (Assoc Prof)  
Sent: Friday, November 16, 2001 3:02 PM  
To: Akbar Hakim  
Cc: Wong Chin Choo; Foo Kok Pheow; Tan Lay Ching  
Subject: Thank you: Resource and Internet Search session for IHPT students

Dear Akbar,

It is very kind of you to have spared your time to do the presentation on Tuesday 6th November and for conducting the workshops on Thursday and Friday. Your enrichment talk on Internet Search and the workshops for the IHPT students were well received and we have good feedback on your talk and the workshop from the students.

I am sure that your talk and workshop have helped the IHPT students to get appropriate resources towards their respective “Technopreneurship” and “Innovation & Design” projects.

We would like to thank you again for your contribution to MPE IHPT (ID21 and T21).

Warmest regards.

Sivakumar  
Chair, IHPT Organizing committee

From: Lee Heng Weng  
Sent: 18 October 2001 18:24  
To: Akbar Hakim  
Cc: Foo Kok Pheow; Wong Chin Choo; Teo Chin Ye Vincent; Tan Kia He; Ang Samantha  
Subject: RE: training courses conducted by Library

Hi Akbar

Thank you for arranging the training session for Vincent, May and myself. It has been very helpful, informative and eye-opening. I must commend the Library for the many forward-thinking initiatives being adopted and the professional approaches being practiced.

A lot more initiatives must come from more staff and students to be aware of the vast resources the Library has and they should make full use of them so that it is cost effective.

If it is practicable, please put me on your mailing list for such training courses or any other matters which you think would be of interest to me.

In fact, as we have discussed, we will need to tap on your rich knowledge and expertise, to assist ITTO and the Nanyang Technopreneurship Center (NTC), in facilitating the process of technopreneurship within the University.

Thanking you in advance for your kind assistance and with best regards.

Lee Heng Weng  
Innovation and Technology Transfer Office (ITTO)
Dublin Core Metadata Initiative

The Dublin Core Metadata Initiative (DCMI) is an open forum engaged in the development of interoperable online metadata standards that support a broad range of purposes and business models. DCMI’s activities include consensus-driven working groups, global workshops, conferences, standards liaison, and educational efforts to promote widespread acceptance of metadata standards and practices.

The original workshop for the initiative was held in Dublin, Ohio in 1995. Hence the term “Dublin Core” (DC) in the name of the initiative. Since that time there have been a total of eight workshops held in England, Australia, Finland, Germany, Canada and the United States. The initiative has gathered experts from the library world, the networking and digital library research communities, and a variety of content specialties in a series of focused, invitational workshops.

DC-2001

DC-2001, the ninth in this series of pivotal events for the development and promotion of the DCMI, was the first to be hosted in Asia. Its goals were to consolidate the developments of the various DC working groups, to share implementation experiences and to promote DC in supporting interoperability amongst heterogeneous metadata systems.

It was also the first time that an international conference for the broader metadata community was held with the aim of achieving three principal missions:

- To provide a forum to discuss further developments of DC and related metadata standards,
- To provide a forum to present and exchange new ideas about metadata and applications not limited to DC, and
- To provide tutorials on the creation, management, and use of metadata applications.

Over 300 participants from more than 30 countries attended the DC-2001: International Conference on Dublin Core and Metadata Application held in Tokyo, Japan, from October 22-26, 2001. With the kind support of NTU, our University Librarian Mr Foo Kok Pheow and myself were given the opportunity to attend this international conference. In addition, I was also given support by NTU to attend the accompanying workshops held prior to the conference proper.
Workshops

The workshops, which ran for two and a half days, focused on the technologies, policies, semantics, and use of DC as an emerging metadata standard. The opening introduction by Stuart Weibel, DCMI Executive Director, provided an overview of DCMI, its organizational structure and its activities. Makx Dekkers, Managing Director of DCMI, then gave a status report on its operational principles and approval progress, working structures, technical activities and results, as well as, priorities for the year 2002. Breakout sessions were presented by different interest groups and a registry demonstration was also conducted.

The DC-Libraries Working Group, chaired by Mr. Eric R. Childress, OCLC Research Group, addressed possible application profiles that highlighted the use of the DC Metadata Element Set in libraries and library-related applications and projects. These included the use of the element set for harvesting metadata from data sources from within and outside of the library domain, for supporting the simple creation of library catalogue records for resources within a variety of systems (e.g. using MARC equivalents of DC elements) and for exposing MARC data to other communities (through a conversion to DC). Another working group, the Citation Working Group discussed on the development of a metadata element set for recording bibliographic citation information of journal articles.

One other break-out session was conducted by the DCMI Registry Working Group, which was chartered post-DC7 Frankfurt in late 1999. The DCMI registry aims to establish a metadata registry to support the activities of the DCMI. It is also designed to provide an added value ‘registry service’ to assist humans and software obtain reliable trusted information about DCMI terms. The working group has developed two prototypes - an Extensible Open Registry open source tool-kit and a simpler light-weight solution - and Mr. Harry Wagner from OCLC provided a demonstration of these two prototypes during the break-out session.
Conference

The two and a half days conference included a keynote speech given by Dr. Makoto Nagao, President of Kyoto University. Dr Nagao, a leader of academic societies in computer and information sciences and President of the Japan Library Association, is widely known for his distinguished work in digital libraries.

Papers presented during the conference came from over twenty countries and covered various subjects, such as, the use of DC metadata in the UK, Germany, Denmark and Japan; metadata application profiles for various fields such as education and government; metadata approaches to digital preservation; and, the development of multilingual metadata schema in different countries.

Stuart A. Sutton, University of Washington and Jon Mason from Dulwich, Australia presented a paper focusing on metadata standards for networked information discovery and retrieval of education resources.

Jane Greenberg reported on a study that examined the ability of resource authors to create acceptable metadata in an organizational setting. Results of the study indicated that authors think metadata is valuable for resource discovery and that they can create good quality metadata when working with DC.

Karen Calhoun and Tom Turner from the Cornell University Library ENCompass team presented a paper on their work-in-progress to implement integrated access to multiple digital collections with a new discovery system model. The model uses simple, “pidgin” metadata at the collection management level and combines this simple layer with other metadata for describing specific resources to enable users not only to discover relevant collection but also to conduct deep searches.

Ann Apps from the University of Manchester, presented a joint paper on zetoc: a Dublin Core Based Current Awareness Service. zetoc is a current awareness service for UK higher and further education providing Z39.50 access to the British Library’s Electronic Table of Contents database of journal articles and conference papers. The zetoc database, updated daily, is searchable via a World Wide Web interface. Ann’s paper reported on the enhanced version of zetoc, currently a prototype under development, which holds data within an XML repository and uses DC as the basis of the metadata schema. She also described the encoding of bibliographic records for journal articles and conference papers in DC, as well as the interoperability between DC and other bibliographic standards.

Conclusion

DC-2001 is the first annual DC meeting held in Asia. It is a recognition of the growth of activities in the Asian metadata community and of the growing contribution and importance of metadata developments in this region.

Attendance at this conference has indeed given me an opportunity to understand further the Dublin Core Metadata Initiative - the conceptual models for metadata, the relationship amongst various metadata standards, its application profiles for various fields, interoperability between metadata systems and metadata developments in specialized areas.

Website

http://www.nii.ac.jp/dc2001/

Sponsors

DC-2001 was co-sponsored by:

The National Institute for Informatics
<http://www.nii.ac.jp/>,

The Dublin Core Metadata Initiative
<http://dublincore.org/>,

The Japan Science and Technology Corporation
<http://www.jst.go.jp/EN/>,

The University of Library and Information Science
<http://www.ulis.ac.jp/>,

The Communications Research Laboratory
<http://www.crl.go.jp/>, and

The National Diet Library
Snapshots of Tokyo, Japan...

Mr Foo and Mrs Puah outside a computer shop

Exploring a busy subway

Wow! So many books on offer at a bookshop
Farewell Su Nee

Ms Goh Su Nee, Assistant Librarian, left NTU Library in November 2001. Su Nee had been working as a Cataloguing Librarian since she joined the Library in early 1999. Beginning with the cataloguing of both English and Chinese printed materials, Su Nee had advanced into the arena of Internet resources and even Japanese materials. She had also assisted in developing policies, procedures, and training documentation for cataloguing both printed and electronic resources.

Su Nee has an insatiable desire to discover and learn from other libraries and librarians. In her relentless pursuit of information, she never failed to share the fruits of her quest with her fellow librarians. She always volunteered to train her fellow colleagues in many areas and she has touched many of us with her warmth and friendship.

The Library would like to thank her for her many contributions and to wish her the very best in all her future endeavours.

Seminar on CDRS, Collaborative Digital Reference Service

NTU Library, together with the Library and Information Technology Association (LITA) (Singapore), held a joint seminar with OCLC Asia Pacific on CDRS, the Collaborative Digital Reference Service promoted by OCLC in partnership with the Library of Congress. The two hour long seminar took place on Friday 26 October 2001 at NTU Library and it was attended by more than 40 librarians from the local universities, polytechnics and junior colleges. Mr Andrew H. Wang, Executive Director, OCLC Asia Pacific and Ms Tsai Shu-En, Manager, OCLC Asia Pacific Library Services were on hand to satisfy the curiosity of participants with a talk and demonstration of the CDRS.

The CDRS is an international web-based cooperative network of librarians. The collaborative service delivers reference assistance to researchers any time, any place. It supports reference efforts by combining the power of an institution’s resources and staff strengths with the diversity and availability of libraries and librarians everywhere. Using advanced technology that directs questions to the appropriate library based on subject profiles, this new, digital network pools librarians’ expertise to bring quality and professionalism to online reference service.

More information on the CDRS Collaborative Digital Reference Service can be obtained from these two websites:

- http://www.oclc.org/strategy/reference/cdrs/
- http://www.loc.gov/rr/digiref/

Guest lecture for NTU-JC-SGH Challenge 2002 Healthcare Workshop

Mr Akbar Hakim, Instructional and Research Support Librarian, was invited to give a lecture on “Information Searching Skills for a New Tech-Knowledge Era” during the NTU-JC-SGH Challenge 2002 Healthcare Workshop. The one-hour lecture was conducted on Tuesday 20 November 2001 in LT1 and about 100 students, representing the 15 junior colleges and 2 institutes participating in the challenge programme, attended the talk.