

Library Update Online

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1. Electronic Resources
2. Virtual Library Tour
3. Library Book Sale
4. Access Indicators & Subject Guide for Electronic Database List
5. Tea-time Reading with Yvonne Yin

1. **Electronic Resources**

The Library has provided Web access to the following databases:

1. Biological Abstracts (Jan 1996-present) via WebSPIRS
2. MLA International Bibliography (1963-present) via WebSPIRS
3. Linguistics and Language Behaviour Abstracts (1973-present) via WebSPIRS
4. The Philosopher's Index (1940-Present) via WebSPIRS
5. Singapore Malaysia Collection via WebSPIRS
6. Contemporary Authors via GaleNet

The Library has 4 new additions to its Electronic Journal Collection:

1. Literature and History (Vol.8, No.1, Spring 1999-Present)
<http://www.man.ac.uk/mup>
PN50 LH
2. Research in Education (Vol.61, May 1999-Present)
<http://www.man.ac.uk/mup>
LB1028 RE
3. International Journal of Science Education (Vol.21, no.1, Jan 1999-Present)
<http://www.catchword.com/cl=19/vl=37402442/nw=1/rpsv/catchword/tandf/09500693/contp1.htm>
Q181 EJSE
4. Journal of Chemical Education (Vol.73, no.9, Sept 1996-Present)
<http://jchemed.chem.wisc.edu>
QD40 JCE

The Library currently subscribes to 17 CD-ROM databases, 21 Web-based databases, 2 regional databases and 97 electronic journals.

2. **Virtual Library Tour**

A Virtual Library Tour that consists of clickable floorplan with information on resources, services and facilities provided by the NIE Library and Information Services Centre was put up on the Library Webpage. This was a project done with the assistance of a Singapore Polytechnic student on industrial attachment to the Reference Unit, Library. It allows users to find out more information about the Library from the comfort of home or offices. The Virtual Library Tour is accessible at <http://library.nie.edu.sg/vtour/vlibtour.htm>.

3. **Library Book Sale**
(By Mrs Lee Meow Hui, NIE Library and Information Services Centre)

Since last year, the Library has been vigorously weeding its collection in preparation for the big move to Yunnan Garden Campus. In our bid to help "save the trees", we decided to hold a book sale to recycle some of the weeded books. Besides, we believe that our discards could be someone's treasures. As an added bonus, revenue earned from the sale would be credited into the Library's vote for the purchase of new library materials.

So, on 14 April 2000, some of the Library staff turned booksellers for the day. The walkway outside the Library was bustling with activity as it was the venue of the Library's first Book Sale. Although the sale was scheduled to start at 10 am, staff and students started to gather as soon as the trolleys were pushed out at about 9.30 am. These were the early birds who hoped to have the best pick. The good turnout was probably a result of the publicity posters that had been put up at strategic locations around the campus. The sale was also announced to staff through the e-mail system.

The assorted books for children and teenagers were the centre of attraction as they were cheaply priced at \$1.00 for any 5 books. The Big Books and picture cards were equally popular as they could serve as teaching aids. Two sets of general encyclopaedia were quickly snapped up. There was a steady stream of buyers throughout the sale period, with prices of individual books ranging from \$0.50 to \$5.00. In fact, many students were still busy browsing/selecting books even at 4 pm, the scheduled closing time. We didn't have the heart to ask them to leave, so we waited till there was no one at each trolley before we pushed it back into the Library. The last trolley was pushed in at about 4.30 pm.

The enthusiastic response to our first Book Sale was certainly very encouraging. As a result, we have decided to make the Book Sale a regular Library event. We will have at least one Book Sale a year. We look forward to your continuing support in our future book sales.