

Law librarians support the Moots

A high point of a law student's life at NUS Law school is to be selected for an international moot competition (see http://law.nus.edu.sg/current/int_moots.htm). The moots have produced some of the more famous names in the Singapore legal landscape such as Senior Counsel Davinder Singh and Judge of Appeal Justice V. K. Rajah.

This year, librarians from the C J Koh Law Library were formally invited to share their information research skills with the various moots teams as participants prepare for their Submission of Memorials. To see an example of how intense the competition calendar is, take a look at the Manfred Lachs Space Law Moot Court Competition at www.spacemoot.org/calendar.htm

With each moot team having unique research needs, library tutorials have to concentrate on the topic at hand. For instance, for the Space Moots team's cross-disciplinary topic on the militarisation of space, librarians demonstrated the effective use of index and full-text databases such as the Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals, Legal Trac, Hein Online and JSTOR. Even in the search for newspaper articles in Factiva, it was a specialised search by subject source for the Jessup Moots team's topic on the International Court of Justice.

"... As you can see from the emails below, they found the session extremely useful. This is a fantastic initiative. Thank you so much." —Asst. Prof. Lim Lei Theng, Coach, Space Moots Team.

"The fact that they took the trouble to compare the scope of each of the websites that they were taking us th(rough), helps us cover maximum ground while preventing duplication of labour. I think we are especially grateful for the techniques on tracking search terms and results. Please let them know how grateful we were for their patience and their thoughtfulness throughout (especially for having tailored the entire session specifically for us and sending us notes in case we missed out on anything)." —Kirtan Prasad, Team Member, Space Moots Team.

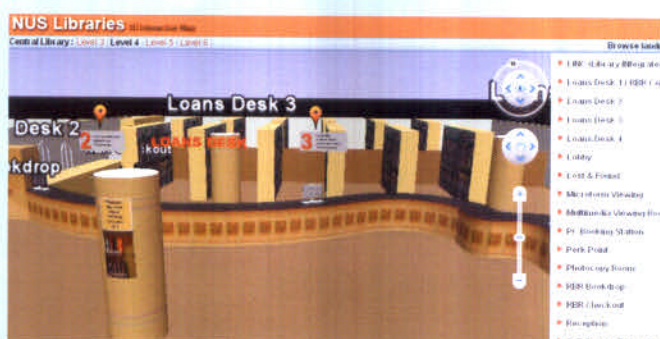
With NUS Faculty of Law's track record in international moot competitions — it continues to hold the record as the law school with the most number of victories at the world's most prestigious Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Competition (see NUS Law Students Chalk Up Wins at Prestigious International Mooting Competitions at <http://law.nus.edu.sg/news/archive/2008/newsMoots.htm>). We are pleased to support the moots teams' exciting research journeys and wish them the very best in the competitions.

Annie Lim, C J Koh Law Library

NUS Central Library in 3D

There's now a cooler way to explore and discover the Central Library. The 3D library tour using Google Earth technology was launched on 8 August 2008 with the aim of helping users to find their way around the Central Library. All you need is to download the free Google Earth plugin, currently available for Windows users only.

The 3D Interactive map not only showcases the Central Library's facilities and collections in a visually pleasing way, it also helps users and visitors familiarise themselves with the layout and organisation of Central Library, all at their own pace and time. And for those who aren't familiar with Google Earth's navigation,



two customised tours have been created. There's an orientation tour, designed for new undergraduates to discover the vast amount of resources and the services at their disposal, and a

"quickie" tour for those in a hurry! In both tours, additional information is given about a landmark only when you click on the icon on top of the site, or when you do a search for a place in the library using the search box in the right hand column.

Still under development is a Book Search feature. When completed, you'll be able to do a call number search, and the tool will proceed to locate your book right to the exact shelf.

Since its launch, more than 3,200 visits have been recorded. Overseas visits came from 24 countries, namely the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, China and Thailand just to name a few. Frank Taylor, author of Google Earth Blog reviewed our new site in early October had this to say "A real 3D tour of the inside of a building is pretty slick!" So check out this cool addition at our portal www.lib.nus.edu.sg/nus/3d/virtual.html and have fun!

Thavamani Prem Kumar, Central Library



Bouquets to NUS Libraries

We received over 30 compliments from August to October, thanks to all who took time to send us your comments. Here are some excerpts —Ed.

I am writing to extend my appreciation to your staff in the Central Library who were accommodating and responded to my needs with trust and professionalism ... my trip to the library was worthwhile as I could borrow the books that I need, and the warmth and care displayed by the Central Library staff are still felt today, as when I was an NUS student in late 90s. I'm proud to be an NUS Alumni and NUS library has the best resource collection even until today.

—Dayang Istiaisyah from the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore (Muis), a corporate member of NUS Libraries, thanking Letha, Rani and Patrick at Loans & Membership.

... I feel that the library services, especially the electronic access possibilities, are absolutely outstanding by internationally. —Dr Christian Kurtstiefer, Dept. of Physics, thanking Kan Sok Cheng and the team at Science Library.

...The librarians [at Chinese Library] are all very enthusiastic. Thank you very much! 收到您的电邮, 很感动。我们中文系的老师和图书馆员都很热心。谢谢您。 —Liqin, 2nd year student in FASS, thanking the team at Chinese Library.