Project Title :	Enhancing information literacy in Hong Kong higher education through the development and implementation of shared interactive multimedia courseware
Leading University :	The Hong Kong Polytechnic University
Participating UGC-funded University(ies) :	City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong Baptist University, Lingnan University, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, The Education University of Hong Kong, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, The University of Hong Kong
Project Leader(s) :	Dr Shirley Chiu-wing Wong, Pao Yue-kong Library, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Layman Summary of Proposal

As a foundation for learning, information literacy (IL) is crucial to academic achievement and lifelong employability. IL education is a catalyst to transform the information society of today into the learning society of tomorrow. While it is an international trend to integrate IL into the university curriculum, it is not a standard practice in Hong Kong. In a globalised digital environment, university students in Hong Kong must deal with an ever increasing quantity of information of varying quality. Yet, many default to begin and end their research in the open web, using information from unreliable sources.

The project aims to enhance IL among students in UGC-funded institutions by developing and implementing a shared interactive multimedia courseware, so as to foster their capacity to use information to learn, and to build students' awareness of themselves as informed learners. In order for the courseware content to be relevant to students and their context, specific educational needs for IL among local university students will be surveyed and assessed to form a knowledge base, to guide the development of the evidence-based IL courseware and a self-assessment tool.

The courseware will feature authentic scenarios based on realistic and local cases, delivered through interactive multimedia, to challenge misconceptions, create

engaging learning experiences, and reinforce IL concepts transferrable between subject disciplines. Formative assessment exercises will be integrated in the courseware's different modules to assess students' knowledge and mastery, and to customise content and activities for individuals. A self-assessment tool will also be developed to facilitate self-reflection by students on changing their information behaviour. To ease integration of the courseware's elements into the university curricula, it will be designed to be readily embedded to Learning Management Systems (LMS), teaching programmes and other learning activities. "Course Enhancement Funds" will also be offered to individual courses to promote instructor-librarian partnerships for embedding IL. To deepen this IL embedding, a professional capacity building programme will be organised to help librarians from the participating institutions to build and to sustain these collaborative partnerships.

Layman Summary of Final Report

The IL project is a collaboration among all eight UGC-funded universities in Hong Kong, with the goal to enhance the awareness and competence of students in using information analytically, creatively and wisely to study at university and for the future careers.

The primary deliverable is a Mass Open Online Course (MOOC) named "InfoLit for U", a self-paced MOOC in which students learn the essentials of university IL from the focal module and eight discipline-related situations of research and study. Components and learning objects of the "InfoLit for U" MOOC can also be directly embedded into courses in LMS by instructors to address specific IL education needs of subjects and students.