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Reopening of the Universities Service Centre at CUHK

The Chinese University of Hong Kong announces that it has reached agreement with the American Council of Learned Societies (ACLS) to take over management of the Universities Service Centre (USC), which was removed from its Argyle Street premises last June, and that the Centre, now temporarily relocated to the Central Library Building on CUHK campus in Shatin, will resume partial service to qualified scholars on Monday, January 16, 1989.

Established since 1963, USC has provided office accommodation and professional assistance to several generations of international scholars who came to Hong Kong for a great variety of research work on contemporary China. As a result the Centre has built up an extensive library holding of books and other original materials published in China, including over 400 newspapers and 1,000 journals and magazines. For a number of years, the Chinese University has been in touch with ACLS exploring the possibility of providing a permanent institutional base for the Centre here in Hong Kong, and the two parties successfully concluded their negotiations in 1988. By agreement, the University will fund and manage the Centre for the next three years, during which the Centre will be fully maintained for use by all qualified international scholars. At the end of the three-year period it is expected that a final decision will be made to locate the Centre permanently at the University.

The University is presently submitting to UPGC a plan for expanding the Centre into a full-fledged library of Modern Chinese Studies, which would if approved become a major repository of original source materials as well as a complete research library for studies of modern China; it will also continue to provide a full range of services to both international and local scholars.

The Centre is now under the Directorship of Dr. H.C. Kuan, reader in Government and Public Administration of CUHK, and Ms. Jean K.M. Hung who has long been associated with USC serves as the assistant to the Director. The policy and overall direction of the Centre rests with an Advisory Committee consisting of academics from both local universities as well as ACLS representatives. All scholars and qualified persons interested in the services provided by the Centre are encouraged to contact Ms. Hung at 0-6952946/7, or to request being placed on the mailing list of a newsletter published by the Centre.