

Reference Librarian Julie Connoley was selected to participate in the Horner Library Exchange with China's Fujian Province. She shares with us her experience in China.

As you may imagine, there were quite a few differences between the libraries but at the core both U.S. and Chinese libraries strive to provide desired resources to their communities. We both offer similar types of materials: books, periodicals, visual medium, Internet access, databases, reference services, and classes. As one might expect, the focus of the collection often differs. In the libraries I visited, the most popular collections revolved around



computer programming, business management, and learning the English language.

The atmosphere of the Chinese libraries was also quite different. Here we have a great sense of community, a place where the entire family can come in one stop and fulfill both the recreational reading needs, as well as the information needs of both kids

and adults. In China, since the children's library was actually in a separate building, the main library exuded a more academic air.

The libraries I visited also had a much more archival approach to their collection. What does this mean? Basically the library wants to ensure materials both current and ancient are around for future generations to enjoy. Considering China's history is well over 5,000 years old and some library materials are more than 1,000 years old this dedication makes a lot of sense.

Keep a heads up to learn more about China and its libraries as we plan to host two visitors from China later this summer.

TeCHNoLoGY: Express Checkout comes to Bend!



Two Express Checkout self-service stations are now available in the Bend Branch.

The stations were successfully tested in the Redmond Branch before the installation in Bend.

Patrons find these Express Checkout stations easy to use and faster than waiting in line.

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Were You Aware?

You can reserve items online and pick them up at the holds desk of any branch library.

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