Report on Hong Kong
Submitted by Samson Soong
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Many PhD graduates in Hong Kong have recently been contacted by two publishing houses in Germany which are interested in publishing their dissertations in the form of a printed book. These two publishing houses also use a “print-on-demand” model. These graduates asked us in the Library to clarify their right to have their research published as a book, as we have added the full-text of their dissertation to the HKUST Institutional Repository and our E-thesis Databases.

We have referred these PhD graduates to some useful websites, such as the one at West Virginia University Libraries (http://www.libraries.wvu.edu/theses/web.htm), which provide good advice. Knowing some publishers may request that the students restrict online access to their ETD for some period of time but other publishers may require much more, we encourage these graduates to read the agreement carefully before signing.