Meetings and Conferences

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MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

International Conference on Scholarly Information Networks: East Asian Applications (1987: Tokyo)

The International Conference on Scholarly Information Networks: East Asian Applications and International Cooperation was held December 8-11, 1987 in Tokyo, Japan. The Conference organizer was the National Center for Science Information System (NACSIS), or Gakujutsu Jōhō Senta, as it is known in Japanese. The Conference was conducted under the sponsorship of the Japanese Ministry of Education, Science and Culture.

The main purpose of the conference was to discuss two topics of importance: 1) East Asian (i.e., Chinese, Japanese, and Korean) character set/code control and handling, and 2) the international exchange of scholarly information, including bibliographic information. The Conference was inspired by the observation that the growth and development of East Asian bibliographic data in MARC format in North America appeared to be proceeding independently from the rapid developments taking place in bibliographic applications in East Asian countries. Furthermore, the major nations of East Asia—China, Japan, and Korea—had been developing their library applications independently of each other. The organizers of the Conference perceived an urgent need for the coordination of activities among the various regions both in Asia and around the globe in order to assure reasonable data compatibilities.

The Conference on Scholarly Information Networks, therefore, aimed primarily to create a forum for debate and dialogue. Participants sought to assess the current state of affairs, to isolate the main problem areas common to all, and to discuss possible solutions and approaches.

During the 1986 IFLA Conference held in Tokyo, NACSIS was very actively involved on a variety of fronts. The Director General of NACSIS, Dr. Hiroshi Inose, was a key speaker at the main conference, and a number of scholars affiliated with the institution were present at the Pre-Conference Seminar on Multilingual Multiscript Processing. Since its establishment, NACSIS has promoted the idea of technical exchange with the Research Libraries Group, the Online Computer Library Center, Utas, the National Diet Library, the Library of Congress, and other agencies.

Position papers were invited on two topics: East Asian character set/code control and the improvement of international exchange of scholarly information including bibliographic information. Four organizations were solicited for their position papers: RLG of Stanford, California; Data Communication Corporation (Dacom) of Seoul; NACSIS of Tokyo; and Utas International of Toronto.

The position papers presented were as follows:

1) RLG - "International Exchange of Bibliographic Information: Because It's Time" and "East Asian Character Coding and Administration: an RLG Review of Basic Issues."

2) Dacom - "Korean Character Set/Code and Its Control."

3) NACSIS - "International Exchange of Scholarly Information and the Role of NACSIS" and "Character Set Control and Scholarly Information Interchange."

4) Utas - "International Cooperation in the Automation of Asian Scripts."
The position papers were distributed to all the participants in advance and comment papers invited. Altogether a total of eighteen comment papers, submitted by experts in both the fields of computer technology and library automation, from Asia, North America, and Europe were received. These papers covered a wide range of concerns.

It must be recognized from the start that a wide spectrum of systems, approaches, and views were present at the Conference, a situation which fostered an atmosphere conducive to lively and vigorous discussion of issues. The act of bringing major players in the field of East Asian language processing together under one roof for the express purpose of deepening mutual understanding and sharing common concerns has great significance for all of us. The impact of those discussions will be felt, no doubt, in all areas of future research and development.

Over the past five or six years, there have been a number of meetings and conferences which have focussed on the theme of East Asian character processing in libraries: Canberra, 1982; Hong Kong, 1984; the ASEAN Library Association in Seoul, 1985; and IFLA in Tokyo, 1986. However, the NACSIS International Conference on Scholarly Information Networks was unique in that it deliberately limited participation to those national agencies and bibliographic utilities who, as the main architects of automated bibliographic information systems, all face shared concerns regarding issues of MARC formats, national standards, and so forth.

The attention of the participants centered on: 1) current conditions in China, Japan, and Korea; 2) the establishment of national standards; and 3) the trend towards the shared use of bibliographic information. Both speakers and participants found the conference sessions invaluable for their rich and substantive exchange of ideas and information.

As a meeting of specialists, the conference was able to foster frank exchanges of opinion as well as many discussions of broad technical issues, such as the merits of 2-byte versus 3-byte code. It provided a welcome opportunity for the individual nations involved to share plans, strategies, and approaches. One feels confident that this kind of discussion has been very helpful in establishing the base for strong future relations.

Of critical importance is the matter of follow-up sessions to this conference so that the energy and momentum gained last December in Tokyo is sustained.

Key Issues

Towards International Cooperation:

International cooperation is mandatory for the future development and coordination of Asian character sets/codes. A concerted group effort, with the active participation and leadership of East Asian countries, must be realized.

Both the representatives from the British and Canadian National Libraries raised the issue of ISO/TC46 vs. ISO/TC97 in their comment papers, TC46 being the technical committee on documentation and TC97 the technical committee on character sets and information coding. The mandates of these two ISO committees have involved some overlap, resulting in confusion.

With respect to IFLA, it was agreed that a strong contribution from the East Asian region is needed. IFLA has exerted a major influence on Japanese academic libraries, and NACSIS has expressed a desire to reciprocate by expanding its own activity vis-a-vis IFLA. A position paper is planned which will present to TC46 and TC97 the concerns of representatives at the Conference.
Character Set/Code Issues:

A number of critical issues were raised and discussed concerning East Asian character sets/codes. Are the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages written in a single unified script or in three distinct and historically separate scripts? Who should have the responsibility for administering the official character set/code? What should be the role of national agencies? How should they interface with other agencies both in Asia and in other areas of the world? How can we best devise an overall structure which facilitates the exchange of bibliographic data from country to country and from system to system, while at the same time supporting the independent data formats already in place?

It was stated that East Asian character sets are fundamentally an East Asian issue and those countries concerned and their national agencies need to assume a leading role in discussions and in the formulation of new directions. An important outcome of the Conference was the recognition of the vital necessity of having a coordinating body which would operate at the international level and thereby facilitate communication among all national agencies concerned. The concept of such a coordinating body was strongly supported by all participants.

International Coordinating Body:

A key issue discussed at the Conference was the question of establishing procedures for the administration of character sets for handling East Asian languages. NACSIS agreed to undertake the responsibility of exploring the possibility of establishing an international coordinating body. It was stressed that such a body must have broad representation to carry out its mandate successfully and that it must necessarily function as a group effort. The importance of this proposed monitoring group cannot be overlooked.

International Coordination of National Character Sets/Codes—the Role of NACSIS as Clearinghouse:

NACSIS has agreed to explore the possibilities of functioning as a clearinghouse for information on East Asian character processing. The aim of such a clearinghouse would be to facilitate communication among the countries of East Asia and among the various regions of the globe which share similar concerns. This kind of coordinating mechanism, it was generally agreed, would play a key role in promoting the international exchange of bibliographic data. All of the organizations present at the Conference expressed their support for this suggestion and their eagerness to continue working together toward this shared goal.

In summary, the conclusions of the Conference were as follows:

1. NACSIS agreed to provide full documentation of the Conference, including summaries of the discussions.
2. Participants agreed to continue to exchange views on the topics discussed.
3. NACSIS has agreed to explore the possibility of establishing an international coordinating body which would investigate problems in the area of East Asian character sets.
4. Until the next conference, NACSIS will endeavor to act as a clearinghouse for East Asian character set issues.
5. Until the next conference, the Organizing Committee of the conference feels that the initiative in the area of East Asian character sets should come from the Asian countries involved.

(Adapted from a speech presented by Jack Cain of Udas International Canada, at the plenary session of the Committee on East Asian Libraries on March 24, 1988 in San Francisco.)

Summer Institute on East Asian Librarianship (1988: Seattle)

The Summer Institute on East Asian Librarianship was held on the University of Washington (UW) campus in Seattle from July 18 to July 29, 1988. The purpose of the Institute was to provide practicing East Asian librarians with the knowledge to use computer technology to improve library management tasks and to understand the possibilities of the future applications of this technology. There were several topics that received particular emphasis throughout the two-week program. One topic was the current state of the different fields in East Asian studies and the needs of the scholars in those fields that librarians would have to meet. Another important topic was the impact of information technology on library applications, particularly the present state of the field in the processing of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) characters. A third topic emphasized in the Institute was East Asian bibliography, both in its historical aspects and in contemporary efforts at bibliographical control of East Asian materials in North America and Asia. Theoretical and practical issues in library management, including data collection and analysis for budgetary and planning purposes, was another major topic focused upon during the Institute. East Asian library cooperative ventures, both national and international, were also dealt with exhaustively, especially the possibilities stimulated by recent trends in the uses of computerized data.

The development of the program that encompassed all these topics required several years of arduous, painstaking work by the directors of the Institute, Karl K. Lo, Head of the East Asia Library at UW; Jack L. Dull, Director of the East Asian Language and Area Center, Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies at UW; and Margaret E. Chisholm, Director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at UW. They, of course, sought advice from many colleagues, including the Professors-in-Residence at the Institute, Warren M. Tsuneishi, Director for Area Studies at the Library of Congress; Eugene W. Wu, Librarian of the Harvard-Yenching Library at Harvard University; and Dr. Tsuen-hsuin Tsien, Curator Emeritus of the East Asian Library at the University of Chicago who, with Howard W. Winger, directed the first Summer Institute for Far Eastern Librarianship, held at the University of Chicago from June 23 to August 1 in 1969. Help in administering the many details that combined to make the 1988 Summer Institute such a success came from staff members of the East Asia Library: Leone Belzer Berghuis, Secretary; Elise Chin, Head of Technical Services; Teruko Chin, Japan Librarian; Yoonchae Choe, Korea Librarian; and Yeen-mei Wu, Acquisitions Librarian who, together with Elise Chin, recorded the proceedings with a camera. The proceedings were also recorded on tape and stenograph by reporters Mike Malone and Peg Walther.

On Monday, July 18, at 9:00 a.m. Merle N. Boylan, Director of Libraries at UW, presented in the opening keynote speech an overview of the impact of automation technology on the library world in the past three decades and a prospect of the automated library of the future, cooperating extensively with its national and international partners. He exhorted all librarians to cooperate on research in information technology; by putting aside nonproductive distractions, he said, librarians can have a positive effect on the development of better technology. Following his address three scholars described the current state of the field in Korean, Japanese, and Chinese studies. Professor Michael E. Robinson from the University of Southern California described the progress of Korean studies in the West and its shift with the growing influence of the political climate in Korea and the world to a preponderance of studies of the modern period. He also mentioned the impending diminution of Korean specialists in the United States and the effect such a decrease will
have on Korean studies. Professor Susan Hanley of the Japan Program at UW covered in some detail all the disciplines of current Japanese studies, commenting upon the continuing difficulty of securing primary source materials and the seemingly unending increase in the costs of acquiring scholarly materials about Japan. Professor Jack Dull of the China Program at UW and Co-director of the Summer Institute, characterized the China studies field as healthy and went on to give an account of areas in the process of expanding. He discussed comparative local studies, Nationalist era studies, the Period of Disunion between the Han and the T'ang dynasties, and Chinese religion. He also mentioned the importance of tracking dissertations produced at universities in China and indexing the Chinese archives.

Professor Edmond Mignon of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at UW developed the theme of Dr. Boylan's keynote address by discoursing on the history and prospects of library automation in interesting detail. He suggested that, in moving into the 1990s, librarians retain their flexibility because of the probable occurrence of some presently undreamed of technological innovations and the imminent change in the information roles of the federal government and the bibliographical utilities.

John B. Graves, Senior Automation Planning Specialist in the Automation Planning and Liaison Office of the Library of Congress (LC) expatiated on Professor Mignon's remark about the upcoming changes in the work of the federal government and the bibliographical utilities in information processing. He explained the current programs being undertaken by LC in cooperation with the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), the Research Libraries Group (RLG), the Washington Library Network (WLN), the National Library of Canada, and the National Diet Library of Japan. The Linked Systems Project—or Protocol—(LSP) will link the utilities mentioned above so that they can share each other's data bases, eliminating duplicate name authority work and supporting the National Coordinated Cataloging Program (NCCP), the Cooperative Online Serials Program (CONSER), and the integration of JACKPHY (Japanese, Arabian, Chinese, Korean, Persian, Hebrew, and Yiddish written languages) cataloging records into the LSP system. Mr. Graves spoke about the ramifications of these changes on local libraries and on librarians.

Hitoshi Inoue, Director of the Science Information Research Division of the National Center for Science Information System (NACSIS) explained the continuing work in character set development in East Asian countries and the role of NACSIS in scientific research in Japan and in the international exchange of scholarly information. In an aside, he commented that Western response to Japanese scientific literature written in English is poor. Dr. Ch'ing-chun Hsieh, Director of the Computer Center at Academia Sinica in Nankang, Taipei, presented a very full account of the creation of the Chinese Text Processor (CTP), a full-text data base management system for Chinese-language processing, which became accessible to public use on June 1, 1988. Dr. Hsieh illustrated the retrieval method employed in the CTP for locating the places in the text of the Shih chi (Records of the Grand Historian) that mention thirty-six murdered kings by entering terms for royal murder and usurpation and linking them with terms meaning king or prince. He estimated that a full-text data base containing all twenty-five Chinese standard histories will require the efforts of forty full-time typists two years to input and verify the 80,000,000 characters of the texts.

Andrew Wang, Director of the Asian/Pacific Program of the Online Computer Library Center explained the breadth and complexity of the Center's worldwide operations, its plans for future technological developments and the growth of the East Asian records in its data base. Mr. Wang then outlined the cooperative programs OCLC is currently involved with in the Pacific and in Southeast Asia. Ms. Jan Moran, Director of the Micro-Computer Lab of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science, talked to the participants of the Institute about the several experimental data bases in the Lab and the School's use of commercial data bases like BRS, DIALOG, Dow Jones, etc. Institute participants were then given an opportunity to examine on their own the richness and variety of information contained in these large data bases.
Karen Smith-Yoshimura, Program Officer and CJK Specialist at the Research Libraries Group (RLG) described the basic inter-institutional structure of the Group's organization, the manner in which consortia goals are met through the generation of well-planned projects, and the use of the RLIN data base to enhance cooperation between research institutions. She mentioned in great detail how the current programs RLG is undertaking in bibliographical access and technical control, public service work, preservation, collection development and management, and the Linked Systems Project, commenting upon the impact these programs have upon East Asian library work and the specific programs created by the East Asian Studies Program Committee in the Group. Ms. Smith-Yoshimura also spoke about the international union catalog of Chinese rare books in the RLIN data base, the conversion of NACSIS files into JAPAN MARC and from that into US MARC, the requirements for displaying CJK scripts on local system networks, and the development of the scholar's workstation. Ron Hosogi, International Accounts Manager at the Microsoft Corporation, reported on his company's development of double-byte character products that allows full recognition of ideograph-based characters both at the operating system level and the applications level. He commented on the importance of the Japanese market requirements to software developers, saying that the computer extension of compact-disk read-only-memory is becoming standardized in Japan and that compact-disk random-access-memory will be available within a few years.

Karl Lo, Director of the Institute, presided over a round-table discussion that recapitulated the work done by the Institute up to that point and considered the aspects of automation that currently influence our roles as East Asian librarians. The need for EA librarians to understand the new technology in order to be able to communicate with technocrats and the need for more cooperation between EA librarians because of the special requirements and demands of working with East Asian-language materials was underscored. Mr. Lo explained that the growth of the Asian economy and, consequently, of Asian studies emphasized the importance of having EA librarians come to grips with this new technology and that this was the inspiration for the present Institute.

The next four sessions took up specific bibliographical questions important to the management of East Asian research collections. Peter Chang, Deputy Director of the National Palace Museum in Wai-shuang-hsi, Taipei, discussed upon the problems encountered in authenticating and cataloging ancient Chinese books, and presented rules and advice on distinguishing editions and describing Chinese works that do not fit into western subject categories. The Director of the Detached Library in the National Diet Library (NDL), Tsuyoshi Nakamori, spoke about recent developments in the accessibility and availability of books about Japan and the publications of the Japanese government. After a brief retrospect of the NDL and a description of its current work and branches, Mr. Nakamori went on to describe the Library's programs in international cooperation and in preservation.

Sungha Kim, Assistant Librarian at the Harvard-Yenching Library, presented an extensive description of Korean printing and bibliography, which mentioned the earliest examples of Buddhist printing, Korean papermaking, movable types, and bibliographical clues for identifying Korean books. Mr. Kim then reported on current conditions of Korean acquisitions, the problems of gathering reliable statistics and atlases, and the ongoing work in translating Korean sounds and words. He also displayed many Korean books and movable wooden types and presented the participants with a comprehensive bibliography of available Korean reference works.

Ms. Yvonne Carter of the U.S. Department of Education Library Program was introduced to the participants. Funding for the Institute, including transportation and room and board expenses for the twenty East Asian librarians, was provided by the Department of Education which funded only one other program last year. Ms. Carter observed the Institute's proceedings from Wednesday, August 27, until Friday, August 29. Eugene W. Wu, Librarian of the Harvard-Yenching Library, proffered an up-to-date picture of the availability of research materials on contemporary China. Beginning with comments on items in the third edition (1987) of Ichiko Kenji's Kindai gendai Chūgoku kankei sankō tosho ichiran, Dr. Wu covered all the sources of material on present-day
China from the book dealers in China to suppliers of restricted publications like the Center for Chinese Research Materials in Oakton, Virginia. He talked about the difficulty of acquiring certain materials, the availability of much material previously unobtainable, and the need for regional cooperation in acquisitions and resource sharing as is the case in the production of a union catalog of East Asian newspapers held by six East Coast libraries, currently available as a preliminary list from Ms. Marsha Wagner, Librarian, C. V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University for $10.00.

The topic of collection management was treated by Linda J. Gould, Assistant Director of Libraries at UW, who began by rigorously defining and describing the eight essential components in collection development: philosophy, organization, knowledge of users' needs, the collection development staff, the universe of publications, the budget, the collection development policy, and a communication system that includes information external to the educational institution, within that institution, and within the library. Ms. Gould indicated the impact of the new technology upon collection development operations by considering several categories of this technology: automated systems within a library, those on campus designed for other uses but available to collection development staff, off-campus systems, especially those provided by vendors, used in other areas of the library, the staff use of microcomputers, and products of this technology like the CD-ROM bibliographic reference sources. Ms. Gould offered very pertinent observations on how effectively systems, equipment, and products can be used in achieving the goals of the collection development function.

Warren M. Tsuneishi, Acting Assistant Librarian of the Library of Congress and Director of Area Studies of the Research Services, recalled the many instances of national cooperation in improving library services to users of CJK materials from the distribution of cataloging cards to the codification of cataloging standards to the National Program on Acquisitions and Cataloging. He went on to cite instances of international cooperation like the contributions from Taiwan computer scientists to the development of the RLIN East Asian Character Code, the National Diet Library's introduction of JAPAN MARC, and the contributions of emigre scholars and librarians like Asakawa Kan'ichi, T. H. Tsien, and Key P. Yang to East Asian libraries in the US. The international cooperation continues, Dr. Tsuneishi concluded, with the exchange of librarians and information specialists in both directions across the Pacific and the lectures of Chinese-speaking specialists like Karl Lo and Eugene Wu to audiences in China.

Margaret E. Chisholm, Director of the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at UW, stated in her keynote speech the goal of the Institute on East Asian Librarianship. It is, she said, to enable the participants to advance their current knowledge of East Asian library operations and to become familiar with the important developments of information technology in general and East Asian-language character processing in particular so that they can take part in the efforts to provide swift access to information between people internationally, across physical, political, and linguistic boundaries. At another lab session, Karl Lo demonstrated the data base formerly used in the East Asia Library at UW for acquisitions management and reporting. The data base employed the commercial software program R:BASE System V by Microsim, Inc. The file was kept current by weeding received items from the data base every six months. At present the Library employs the Geac acquisitions module to perform this function.

Dr. Tsuen-hsuin Tsien, Professor Emeritus and Curator Emeritus of the East Asian Library at the University of Chicago, declared that in the 1950s and 1960s qualified personnel who could handle the processing and control of East Asian library materials were too few and that librarians outside the East Asian studies area did not understand the problems within that area. Efforts to ameliorate this situation took the form of surveys of EA collections in 1959, 1964, and 1975, a conference on area studies and the library in 1965, and the Summer Institute for Far Eastern Librarianship in 1969. The Joint Program for Far Eastern Librarianship between the University of Chicago Graduate Library School and the Department for Far Eastern Languages and Civilizations, which ran from 1964 to 1979, conferred diplomas, six of which were Ph.D. degrees, to thirty-five
graduates. Besides studying to gain competence in library and information science and a substantial background in the language and culture of the area, the prospective EA librarian should, Dr. Tsien said, endeavor to acquire the specialized knowledge of the area's book trade, its printing history, and other bibliographical scholarship necessary to perform his or her duties efficiently. Dr. Tsien recommended a coordinated program of instruction that combined library and area disciplines, supplemented by summer programs that would deal with special problems or topics and by an internship that would afford practical training.

The last session of the Institute was held from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. on Friday, July 29, during which a general discussion arose over the problems of library budgets and training for leaders in East Asian librarianship. Eugene Wu addressed the former question by suggesting East Asian librarians learn to speak up about their needs to library administrators and to cultivate friendships that will lead to support from sources outside the particular institution. Ju-yen Teng, one of the participants, summed up that part of the discussion by stating that East Asian librarians must learn to be more political about their work. In response to the question of training, after everyone acknowledged the difficulty of obtaining funding for the operation of formal courses, Frank Shulman, another of the participants at the Institute, suggested creating a series of video cassettes with accompanying printed curricular materials treating the special subjects of East Asian librarianship as a substitute for more formal training or to be used to review and renew basic skills and knowledge. When the discussion ended, Yvonne Carter presented certificates of completion to the twenty participants of the Institute and the Director, Karl Lo, declared the Summer Institute on East Asian Librarianship to be over.

The twenty participants came from everywhere in the United States and represented all the functions of East Asian librarianship. They were: Frederick R. Brady, Senior Cataloger East Asia, Family History Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints; Timothy Connor, Public Services Librarian at Harvard-Yenching Library; Boksoon Hahn, Head Catalogue Librarian, East Asian Collection in the Sterling Memorial Library at Yale University; Jean C. Han, Head Serials Division, East Asiatic Library at the University of California at Berkeley; Joy Hyon Kim, Korea Cataloger, East Asian Collection at the University of Southern California; Gail Oman King, Curator, Asian Collection at Brigham Young University; Hisako Kotaka, CJK User Services Specialist, OCLC, Inc.; Wen-kai Kung, Curator, East Asian Collection at Brown University Library; Yasuko Makino, Japan Librarian, Asian Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Edward Martinique, East Asian Bibliographer, Academic Affairs Library at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Philip A. Melzer, Descriptive Cataloger of Korean at the Library of Congress; Mihoko Miki, Head, Japanese Division, Oriental Library at the University of California at Los Angeles; Isamu Miura, Japan Cataloger, C. V. Starr East Asian Library at Columbia University; Jun Nakamura, Assistant Library Specialist, Hamilton Library at the University of Hawaii; Mamiko Nakamura, Japan Cataloger, East Asian Library at the University of Chicago; Frank Joseph Shulman, Curator and Head of the East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library at the University of Maryland; Ju-yen Teng, Head Oriental Studies Librarian, Oriental Studies Collection, University of Arizona Library; Agnes C. Wen, Technical Services Librarian, East Asian Library at Columbia University; and Reiko Yoshimura, Japan Cataloger, Ohio State University Libraries. They were a very lively and inquiring group, not only seeking further amplification of the lecturers' ideas at the end of sessions, but also chatting with them at breakfast, lunch, and dinner and asking them to spend time in the evening to go more deeply into the subjects of their expertise. Given this, at times, intense interaction over a period of two weeks; everyone—participants, lecturers, and the directors and their staff—came away at the end of the Institute bearing a surfeit of pleasant, enriching memories.

(Edward Martinique)
Report on the Library Panel at the Asian Studies 1988 Pacific Coast Annual Meeting

"Pacific Rim Studies" was the theme of ASPAC'88 which was held June 24-26, 1988 at California State University, Northridge. The library panel entitled: "Computerization of Library Procedures and Its Use in Pacific Rim Studies" was held on Saturday the 25th at 2:00-3:30 p.m. The panelists and their papers were:

"Pacific Rim Area study of the libraries: the case of the University of Oregon" by Katsuko Hotelling, University of Oregon.

"Consortium on the Pacific Rim Business Information Service: five libraries in King County, Washington, and Portland, Oregon" by Teruko K. Chin, University of Washington.

"International Relations and Pacific Studies Graduate School Library, University of California, San Diego: its collection development and automated service" by William Tuchrello, University of California, San Diego.

The chairperson of the panel was Eiji Yutani, University of California, San Diego, and the discussant was Emiko Moffitt, Hoover Institution.

Due, at least partly, to the panel's opportune time slot and the practicality of the conference theme, the audience was larger than anticipated and many questions were asked after the papers had been presented. One of the audience inquired about the possibility of setting up a consortium on business information in Southern California, similar to the arrangement in Washington and Oregon.

The tabulated results of the ASPAC library survey which was conducted during November-December 1987 was also submitted by Teruko Chin at the ASPAC Standing Committee meeting held on June 24th.

(Teruko K. Chin)


The Fifth International Conference on the History of Science in China was held at the University of California, San Diego, from August 5 to 10, 1988. Over 200 specialists in various fields attended. One of the panels, "Printing in Chinese Culture," was chaired by Tsuen-hsuin Tsien. It convened on Saturday, August 6, and in the first session, cochaired by Robert E. Hegel, the panelists presented the following papers:


The following papers were given during the second session in the afternoon, with Peter Chang cochairing:


(*The title is translated, the paper was presented in Chinese.)

In his paper on printing at Hangzhou during the Song dynasty, Sören Edgren enumerated the distinctive features of Hangzhou printing such as its quality and the quality of the materials used, the careful editing and collating, the variety of publications and publishers, and the large pool of skilled laborers supporting the Hangzhou publishing industry. Ming-sun Poon described the evolution of copyright protection in the Song dynasty as the natural consequence of the commercialization of printing. He produced evidence to indicate the eagerness of publishers to protect their financial investments. Tsuen-hsuin Tsien, in his paper, declared that the impact of printing produced fundamental changes in the political, economic, social, and cultural life of mankind. While these changes were similar in the East and the West, there was a difference in the degree of change and even a divergence in the further development of printing in the two cultures.

(Edward Martinique)