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Meetings and Conferences

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MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

I. Association for Asian Studies 1978 Annual Meeting Program Committee

The 1978 Program Committee of the Association for Asian Studies has made its final selections on panels for the 1978 AAS Annual Meeting in Chicago. The "Material Collection and Dissemination Panels" will present the following program:

1. Sources and Methodological Problems in the Study of Post-1949 China (sessions I & II);
2. Current Bibliographical Services in East Asia;
3. The Science and Present State of Information Management: the Case of China;

(Thomas C. Kuo)

II. American Council of Learned Societies Steering Committee for a Study of the Problems of East Asian Libraries

A meeting of some 40 librarians representing major and medium-sized East Asian libraries in the U. S. and Canada was convened on September 9-10 at the O'Hare Inn in Chicago by the ACLS to discuss the draft report of its Steering Committee for a Study of the Problems of East Asian Libraries. The draft report, prepared by Committee Chairman Dean George Beckmann of the University of Washington, brought together in summary form recommendations put forward in a series of position papers that had been commissioned by the Steering Committee to study in detail the problems and issues it had identified.

The following recommendations in the report related to the problem areas of resource development and access:

1. That planning for East Asian library collection development and access be carried out in the context of national approaches to problems facing academic library research collections in general;
2. That East Asian periodicals be included in the program of a National Periodicals Center;
3. That East Asian periodicals be included in the planning of a national current foreign monograph loan collection;
4. That improved shared acquisitions and access to retrospective resources, both serial and monographic, be regarded as an urgent need; and that the Library of Congress intensify its acquisition of East Asian retrospective materials, especially those produced during the last century;
5. That at least three centers be developed for the control of Chinese,
Japanese, and Korean ephemera; and

6. That at least a core group of some 10-15 major graduate training and research universities continue to give high priority to East Asian studies; that these universities continue to support their East Asian libraries; and that in order to improve national scholarly access to these collections, various novel approaches be investigated.

The recommendations of the draft report regarding bibliographic controls included the following:

1. That a NPAC Center for Chinese and Korean publications be established in Hong Kong;
2. That East Asian librarians work closely with ALA and IFLA on questions relating to the development of international standards of descriptive cataloging and with LC on questions relating to LC classification and subject heading practice;
3. That a project be developed to create a retrospective national union catalog of East Asian language monographs, with the final product being a COM listing with a register index of titles;
4. That LC develop the capability of covering East Asian monographs in the National Union Catalog of current imprints including the capability of the machine processing of Chinese characters in any future automated NUC;
5. That a project be developed to create a retrospective union list of East Asian language serials, with a cut-off date of 1980;
6. That the question of adequacy of existing manual (e.g. NST) or automated (e.g. MARC-S, CONSER) union controls of current serials be further investigated with respect to East Asian serials;
7. That there is a need for a union catalog of East Asian microforms; and
8. That the compilation of special bibliographies, indexes, guides, etc. be encouraged.

With respect to preservation and training, the draft report included the following recommendations:

1. That the Library of Congress in formulating its national preservation program, include East Asian materials; and
2. That special institutes and programs to train qualified personnel to staff East Asian libraries be supported.

At the three sessions of the Chicago meeting, chaired by Eugene Wu of the Steering Committee, each of the above recommendations was discussed in some detail. During the latter part of the final session, an attempt was made to formulate an ordering of priorities. This phase of the discussion produced somewhat different perceptions of the agreed-upon priorities, but the following tentative listing appeared to emerge:

A. Projects for which funding is to be sought:
1. NUC of retrospective monographs
2. A union list of serials
3. A union catalog of microforms
4. Travel to national library meetings
5. Training of librarians

B. Programs (planned or on-going) requiring further study or modification:
1. Library of Congress operations
   i. NPAC-China/Korea
ii. NUC current
2. Interlibrary cooperation, including the access problem
3. Inclusion in national programs (national periodicals center, preservation, national monograph pool)

In the light of the comments and advice obtained from East Asian librarians at the Chicago meeting, members of the ACLS Steering Committee held a follow-up meeting in New York on September 20 to begin work on a final report to be submitted to the Ford Foundation, which has funded this two-year study of East Asian library problems. It is expected that within the next few months the Ford Foundation will invite representatives of associated foundations, as well as representatives of the Library of Congress, to consider the implications of the report, the feasibility of its recommendations and their implementation.


A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Liaison with Japanese Libraries (Allan Veaner, Chairman) was held on June 20, 1977, at the ALA annual meeting in Detroit. The bulk of the Committee's time was taken up with a discussion of planning for a fourth U. S.-Japan conference to be held in this country. Of the three conferences already held, two have been hosted by Japan and one by the U. S. A fourth conference in the U. S. would have the advantage of realizing a psychological "balance of payments" in cultural relations between the two countries. It was noted also that the U. S. had recently sent two librarians to the U. S. S. R. and that a joint U. S./U. S. S. R. meeting was being planned for 1978 or 1979. The ALA's increasing involvement in IFLA affairs and appointment of a permanent staff liaison (Jane Wilson) for the International Relations Office are believed to signal a major positive shift in the Association's involvement in international affairs.

A proposal for a fourth U. S.-Japan conference would require considerable lead time, at least eighteen months. The possibility of convening such a meeting in conjunction with the ALA Dallas conference in 1979 seemed attractive to Committee members. The best timing would be either before or after the Conference in order that the Japanese attendees benefit from the multiple experiences of a national conference, associated pre-conferences, and their own meeting.

The Committee agreed to begin work at once on a proposal for a fourth conference. It was suggested that the Friendship Act be reviewed as one possible source of funding. Other sources might include large Japanese corporations doing substantial business in the U. S. Investigation of possible sites for the meeting should begin at once, even before a proposal is prepared, in the interest of obtaining at least preliminary commitments for conference facilities. Postponement of site identification until funding is at hand is believed impractical and unworkable.

It was further agreed that the Chair would write his counterpart, Professor
Ryohei Hayashi, Director of the Library at Kyoto University, indicating that the Committee is "exploring vigorously" the possibility of a fourth conference, but emphasizing that significant financial obstacles are foreseen which might preclude realization of the conference. It is believed that this combination would be encouraging to the Japanese but would not raise their expectations unrealistically. The letter to Hayashi is also to solicit the ideas of the Japanese on possible themes for the conference.

The Committee spent some time considering appointment of members to replace Bob Stevens and Ted Welch, whose terms have expired. The Chair agreed to solicit nominations for replacements.

(Hideo Kaneko)

IV. Southern California East Asian Librarians Group

The 8th annual meeting of the Southern California East Asian Librarians Group met at the UCLA campus on October 7, 1977. Mr. Ik-Sam Kim, Acting Head of the Oriental Library, UCLA, hosted the meeting.

The Group contains four regular institutional members: the Oriental Library, UCLA; the Oriental Library, UCSB; the Asia Collection, San Diego State University; and the Asian Studies Collection, Claremont Colleges. U. C. Irvine and U. C. Riverside participated as associate members. Persons who attended this meeting were: Mr. Ik-Sam Kim and Mrs. Ching-fen Wu Tsiang of UCLA; Messrs. Henry H. Tai and Henry H. Lin of UCSB; Mrs. Lillian Chan of San Diego State University; Mrs. Frances Wang of the Asian Studies Collection, Claremont Colleges; Mr. Kenneth P. Han of U. C. Irvine; Mr. Chia-lin Wang of U. C. Riverside, and Mrs. Man-Hing Y. Chen, former head of the Oriental Library, UCLA.

The members attended a luncheon at the UCLA Faculty Center, after which they met in the Conference Room of the Research Library. The afternoon was devoted to reports of recent developments in Asian Libraries on the regional and national level and discussions of current projects and future plans of the Group.

1. Reports:
Frances Wang reported on the highlights of the CEAL annual meeting of April, 1977, held in New York City, thus informing those who had not attended the meeting of the current issues and projects of CEAL.

Henry Tai gave a brief report on the meeting to consider the draft report of the ACLS Steering Committee for Study of the Problems of East Asian Libraries, which had been held in Chicago on September 9-10.

2. Current Projects:
The four regular members of this group have carried on three projects:
i. Cooperative cataloging and the exchange of original catalog cards;
ii. Exchange of serials lists; and
iii. Expediting of interlibrary loans.
These projects were considered important in view of the budget squeeze in the libraries concerned.

3. Future Plans:
   i. Exchange of monograph and serials duplicates: Several exchanges have been made in the past years. From now on exchanges will be made on a regular basis.
   ii. Union list of serials: The member institutions have been sending serials lists to each other for interlibrary loan purposes. It was agreed that a union list should be issued and the details of this project would be discussed further. Each institution was urged to update its lists.
   iii. The organization of a library panel in conjunction with the ASPC 1978 conference to be held at Anaheim, California.
   iv. Cooperative acquisition of monographs.

(Frances Wang)

V. Mid-Atlantic Region/Association for Asian Studies Annual Meeting

The 6th Annual Meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Region/Association for Asian Studies was held at the Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University on October 29-30, 1977. The four panel sessions, of four panels each, included a total of 56 papers scheduled for presentation. Of particular interest to librarians was "Specialized Archival and Library Resources for the Study of East Asia Within the Mid-Atlantic Region," a panel chaired by Frank J. Shulman of the University of Maryland. In addition to Mr. Shulman's paper, entitled "Publications and Unpublished Materials from the Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-1952) With the East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park," the following papers were also presented: "Resources on Twentieth Century China in Special Collections at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries," by Leon J. Stout of the Pennsylvania State University; "Resources on China and Japan Among the Jesuit Records at the Woodstock Library, Georgetown University, Washington, D. C.," by Ann Nottingham Kelsall of the University of Maryland, College Park; "The Holdings of the Japan Documentation Center, East Asian Institute, New York City," by Tamiyo Togasaki of Columbia University; and "Resources on China and Japan Within the Presbyterian Historical Society Archives in Philadelphia," by Kay L. Dove of the University of Maryland, College Park. With Mr. Shulman's assistance, arrangements have been made with the authors of these five papers to have them published in the CEAL Bulletin: the two papers by Ann Kelsall and Kay Dove appear in this issue (see "Articles" section); the remaining three papers are scheduled to appear in the next (March) issue.

VI. Australian East Asian Library Seminar

A one-day East Asian Library Seminar was held on September 16, 1977, at the Australian National University Library in Canberra, Australia. The main speaker was Dr. Ramon Myers, Scholar-Curator of the East Asian Collection of the Hoover Institution who spoke on the future development
of Hoover's East Asian collections. The Seminar was attended by about forty participants including librarians from Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, and Brisbane as well as some academic and library staff members from the Australian National University and a contingent from the National Library of Australia.

Discussion papers were presented by Mr. Y. S. Chan, Senior Librarian (Chinese Studies), A. N. U., on "The New Era of Chinese Publishing and its Implications for Chinese Book Acquisitions," by Mr. S. Nakano, Library Consultant on Japanese Materials, National Library of Australia, on "The Japanese Book Market and the Acquisition of Japanese Materials," and by Mr. S. W. Wang, Senior Specialist Librarian, Orientalia, National Library of Australia, on "The Oriental Union Catalog and Bibliographical Control of East Asian Materials." The papers and proceedings of the Seminar are expected to be published in the near future.

(Enid Bishop)

VII. East Asian Librarians' Group of Australia

The East Asian Librarians' Group of Australia was formed in Canberra following the East Asian Library Seminar held on September 16, 1977, in that city. A draft constitution was approved and an election will be held in the near future for an Executive Committee. The interim committee for the Group are Mr. S. W. Wang and Miss Nicole White of the National Library of Australia, and Mrs. Catherine Tweedie of the Asian Studies Division of the Australian National University Library.

(Enid Bishop)

VIII. International Symposium on Ch'ing Archival Collections in Taiwan, The Republic of China

Plans are now under way to organize a week-long international symposium on the unique Ch'ing period archival collections on Taiwan, to meet in Taipei early in July, 1978 (exact date to be announced later). The deliberations will focus on four major Ch'ing archival collections on Taiwan, those held at:

- The Institute of Modern History, Academia Sinica
- The Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica
- The National Palace Museum
- The Japanese Viceregal Office (Taichung)

For each collection there will be displays of documents and presentation of papers relating to materials in the collection. In addition, there will be papers on topics in other Ch'ing fields, particularly Chinese historiography. The symposium will also be enhanced by opportunities for visitors to meet local scholars and to use materials from those collections that are open. It is hoped that visits to other smaller Ch'ing archival repositories and
an excursion to Ch'ing sites on Taiwan can be arranged.

The symposium will chiefly be financed through generous grants from two local foundations. These grants will make it possible for most local symposium expenses (such as board, room, and local travel) to be paid for nearly all the participants. Participants will be expected, however, to make their own arrangements for travel to and from Taiwan. (It is suggested that they apply to their own universities or other agencies for special travel grants.)

Applications from those who wish to attend the symposium, either as participants or as observers, are now being received. For prospective participants, a paragraph describing the main findings they wish to present, together with the title they wish to have used in the program, should reach the conference organizers by December 1, 1977. Correspondence may be addressed to one of the two co-organizers:

For correspondence in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean:

Professor Ch'en Chieh-hsien
History Department
National Taiwan University
Roosevelt Road
Taipei 107, Taiwan, R. O. C.

For correspondence in English:

Miss Beatrice S. Bartlett
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The National Palace Museum
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(Beatrice S. Bartlett)