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Meetings and Conferences

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MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

1. Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast (ASPAC)

The 1981 meeting of Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast, a Regional Conference of the Association for Asian Studies, was held in Honolulu, Hawaii, June 25-27, 1981. There were two library-related panels, one on South and Southeast Asia materials and the other on East Asian libraries. The following is a brief report on the latter panel.

Organized by Dr. Masato Matau, Asia Collection, and chaired by Dr. Donald Bosseau, the University Librarian, both of the University of Hawaii, the panel was entitled, "Special Features of East Asian Language Resources and Bibliographic Control." The following four papers were presented. Dr. Matau served as the discussant.

"The Hoover Institution's East Asian Collection and Its Services," by Emiko Moffitt, Hoover Institution

"The Japanese Collection, East Asiatic Library, University of California, Berkeley -- A Critical Evaluation," by Eiji Yutani, University of California, Berkeley

"Special Features of the Chinese Collection at the University of Hawaii: An Assessment," by Chau Mun Lau, University of Hawaii


Emiko Moffitt's paper briefly traced the history of the East Asian Collection at the Hoover Institution, and described the library's special emphasis on collecting materials useful for the study of social changes. She also described its special and unique archival materials both in Chinese and Japanese, and touched on the availability of more than a dozen subject bibliographies, guides, and checklists, based on Hoover's Chinese and Japanese holdings, including those cooperatively compiled with the University of California, Berkeley. At the end, she discussed the need to develop a cooperative network among East Asian libraries to better serve researchers in the face of financial retrenchment, and urged development of a library network in the Western and Pacific region of the United States.

Eiji Yutani presented an analytical and critical evaluation of the Japanese Collection of the East Asiatic Library at Berkeley. Based on the recently published Survey of Japanese Collections in the United States, 1979-1980, by Naomi Fukuda, he discussed the collection quantitatively, offering comparisons in several subject areas with other major Japanese collections, and derived qualitative analyses from this. He then described the special features of the library's holdings on literature, art, and social sciences, particularly the holdings of government documents, and rare books. He also emphasized the ASPAC area librarians' responsibility for serving scholars —
in view of the relatively smaller combined library resources in the Western states — by vigorous book selection and improving existing collections. Mr. Yutani called for a critical assessment of the combined Japanese holdings on the West Coast against the needs of library users in that region for resource sharing.

Chau Mun Lau's presentation was based on an evaluation of the East Asian holdings conducted in 1979 by the Asia Collection in the University of Hawaii, on a request from the University's Language and Area Center for East Asian Studies. The survey was conducted in the six subject fields (history, language, literature, philosophy, bibliography, and social sciences) which were deemed most important in the University's Chinese studies programs. The method employed in the quantitative evaluation was a shelflist count. For the qualitative study, three reference tools were used: Chinese Catalog of the Asian Library, University of Michigan; China: An Annotated Bibliography of Bibliographies, by Tsuen-Hsuin Tsien; and Todai no shihen 唐代の詩篇, by Hiraoka Takeo 平岡武夫. Ms. Lau has found that the University of Hawaii's Chinese holdings, in the fields examined, compare quite favorably with those of Michigan, even though the over-all size of the collection is much smaller. She concluded, however, that the survey methods employed had limitations, and stated, "...statistics alone are not an accurate instrument to measure a collection, but are only a reflection. Even bibliographic checking under subject headings is not very reliable, either, due to the flexibility in assigning a subject heading and classification to a book." As a result of the survey, however, the library was able to fill some gaps and acquire some important imprints. This suggests the value of such in-depth studies of library holdings in collection development, which is probably best done by subjects, as in the case of this study.

Ryoko Toyama's paper attempted "to identify the effect of the current trend [of the use of electronic data processing (EDP)] on the body of scholarship, particularly on bibliographical control of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) language materials in the English-speaking environment." She first discussed the need for basic agreement on coding method, and cited the standard coding systems of CJK languages already developed in Japan, the PRC, and Taiwan. The difficulties faced in the American environment are, first, the extra steps necessary for the conversion of such systems to incorporate them into existing binary and standard codes; and secondly, "the fact that Chinese characters are used as a writing scheme in several languages which are linguistically unrelated" with a considerable number of characters which appear in differing forms in the several areas in which they are used. The latter fact makes it difficult to adopt any of the already established standard codes in American East Asian library use.

She then described briefly the effort underway at the Research Libraries Group to develop an EDP system capable of handling the above problems. The benefits of such a system will be more elaborate indexing capability and flexibility. The planned EDP system will enable the retrieval of records through vernacular search terms, either words or phrases, as well as in romanized form. It also will allow searches without the complete and/or accurate information which has been prerequisite in the traditional card catalog search, and with much greater speed. A combination of name, partial or in full, and word(s) will allow the necessary record retrieval. Finally,
Ms. Toyama predicted that the EDP system will affect cataloging work in two ways. It will give catalogers a sense of responsibility and personal pride, since the records created will be shared with other libraries. It may also affect work flow and personnel structure, depending on the system's design.

Ms. Toyama concluded that there is no doubt that automation will enhance bibliographic control of CJK vernacular materials, as it has already done for alphamnumerical materials. Once the hurdle of character coding problems is overcome, it seems to be a matter of time for CJK libraries to enjoy the benefits described in her paper.

The panel was well attended, with an audience of about 40 people. Questions were answered individually after the formal meeting.

(Emiko M. Moffitt)

II. Conference on the History of the Republic of China

In celebration of the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Chinese Republic, both the People's Republic of China on the mainland and the Republic of China on Taiwan held historical symposia during 1981. Both sponsors claimed to be inheritors of the legacy of Sun Yat-sen and both looked forward to the eventual unification of China under one rule. Both offered hope of freer access to documentary sources on the Republic.

Organizing the R.O.C. conference in Taipei, August 23-28, 1981, were the Party History Committee of the Kuomintang Central Committee, Academia Historia, the Institute of Modern History of Academia Sinica, and the Institute of International Relations of National Chengchi University. What had been planned as a meeting of some sixty participants grew to a gathering of over two hundred, with approximately one-third coming from overseas. Party stalwarts and actors in Republican history joined academic scholars in the presentations. Discussions ranged from personal reminiscences to defense of KMT policies to open and stimulating exchanges concerning sensitive controversies. To judge from the papers presented, historical scholarship on China is maturing on Taiwan and also in the West.

The conference was divided into five committees, each holding twelve sessions and discussing over a dozen papers. Focus of the first grouping was the Revolution of 1911. Here, Sun Yat-sen was the most popular subject, though panels were also devoted to such specific topics as British attitudes toward the 1911 revolution, the Restoration Society (Kuang-fu Hui), the railway controversy in Szechuan, et. According to G. K. Kindermann (University of Munich), rapporteur for the committee, the consensus was that further study of the personality of Sun should have high priority.

Committee II on the Early Period of the Republic gave particular attention to intellectual history and ideological movements: Lu Shih-chiang (Academia Sinica) on anti-Christian thought; Robert Scalapino (University of California, Berkeley), George Yu (University of Illinois), and F. G. Chan (Miami University) on socialism. On the basis of personal experience, T'ao Hsi-sheng talked about the May 4th Movement and Li Huang about the anti-communist
activities of the Young China Party. Interestingly enough, a panel on the origins of feminism was featured in the Taipei press coverage of this grouping.

Though the third committee was concerned with the background of the Northern Expedition and the period of Political Tutelage, only one paper, an essay by Mark Elvin (Oxford), dealt with social and economic developments between 1927 and 1937. Much detailed research remains to be done on the politics and economics of this decade. Differing views emerged as authors presented papers on relations between the Kuomintang and the Chinese Communist Party, between Soviet advisers and the KMT, and between students and the political parties. For the 1920's, at least, certain scholars drew a much sharper line between the goals and activities of the two parties than did other essayists.

Committee IV on the War of Resistance against Japan heard two discussions of Japanese aggression in China between the Mukden Incident of 1931 and the Marco Polo Bridge Incident of 1937. Both Li Yun-han of the KMT Party History Commission and Donald A. Jordan of Ohio University argued that the Japanese military did not act alone; rather, it had significant support in the overseas Japanese communities, the Foreign Office, and the diplomatic corps. Some papers were more information than others on KMT-CCP relations and on the CCP in the Northwest during the Second World War. Subjects needing study but receiving little attention at this conference were the puppet regimes and conditions at the provincial and sub-provincial level in areas under KMT jurisdiction.

Economic growth and development, as one might expect, was the topic of numerous papers presented to Committee V, National Reconstruction Years. Shirley W. Y. Kuo (Central Bank of China), Lin Min-jen (National Chengchi University), Hou Chi-ming (Colgate University), and others had ample material to work with in detailing the remarkable growth of the Taiwan economy during the past twenty-five years. Several speakers ventured into the realm of Sino-American relations, among these being such well-known figures as David Rowe and Anna Chennault.

Chin Hsiao-yi, Conference Chair and Chair of the Commission on Kuomintang Archives, concluded the formal sessions with a promise of early publication of the proceedings. Afterwards, participants were treated to a tour of the Palace Museum, the KMT Archives now located at Yangmingshan, and the Sun Yatsen and Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Halls, where special exhibits on seventy years of republican history were on display. The hospitality of the hosts was as unerringly gracious as the Chinese food was exquisite.

(Jessie G. Lutz
Rutgers University)

III. Workshop for Librarians of Sinological Libraries in Europe

This Workshop, which met in Leiden from September 7 to 12, 1981, was organized by John T. Ma, Librarian of the Chinese Library, Sinologisch Instituut, Leiden, for the purpose of bringing together European librarians concerned with sinological libraries for a discussion of their common problems. Fourteen libraries
were represented—those in Louvain, Copenhagen, Hamburg, Berlin, Bochum, Venice, Oslo, Stockholm, Zurich, Durham, Oxford, London, Moscow, and Leiden. Mrs. Teresa Wang Chang (National Central Library, Taipei) was present as an observer. Each of these libraries presented a description of its collection, and the subsequent discussion covered a number of matters, most of which are quite familiar to members of CEAL. Some of these subjects were: library acquisitions; bookdealers and their policies; the building of a specialized collection; library automation; interlibrary loans; cataloging; and problems of different subject heading schemes. Future meetings will discuss a proposal for a union catalog of post-1949 PRC literature in European libraries; a proposal for a union catalog of pamphlets from the PRC; and a proposal to obtain grants to build up one great sinological library in Europe.

Possibly the most important decision, however, was to establish a European Association of Sinological Libraries, which will hold its first meeting at Cambridge, probably beginning July 4, 1982, in conjunction with the 28th conference of the European Association for Chinese Studies. The tentative agenda consists of six items, including the adoption of a charter, proposals for various union lists, and the possibility of establishing a newsletter for Chinese libraries in Europe. John Ma has been elected Chairman of the Association; Elizabeth Eide (The Royal Library, Oslo) will serve as secretary; and Howard Nelson (The British Library) will act as coordinator for the meeting in Cambridge. Mr. Ma has been requested to provide an account of the Cambridge meeting for the CEAL Bulletin.

(E. G. B.)

IV. Conference on Korean Romanization

A Workshop Conference on Korean Romanization was held at the University of Hawaii on June 3-6, 1981, under the auspices of the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawaii. Conference participants were Robert Austerlitz and S. Robert Ramsey of Columbia University. Chin-Wu Kim of the University of Illinois, Samuel E. Martin of Yale University, Ho-min Sohn of the University of Hawaii, Seok Choong Song of Michigan State University, and Edward W. Wagner of Harvard University. The goal of the conference was to examine the McCune-Reischauer system of romanization and produce simpler and more uniform guidelines for its use.

The specific recommendations produced by the conference have been embodied in a detailed report that will be published in full in Volume 4 of Korean Studies, the journal of the Center for Korean Studies. Volume 4, which is expected to appear in early summer of 1982, will also include the articles, "An Outline History of Korean Historiography," by Yong-ho Ch'oe; "The Korean Lawyer: A Study of Career Development," by George Won; and "The State of the Art in the Historical-Comparative Studies of Japanese and Korean," by Ho-min Sohn.

(Adapted from Korean Studies, Newsletter of the Center for Korean Studies, University of Hawaii, December, 1981. Contributed by Joyce Wright)
V. Japan-United States Friendship Commission Library Committee (Eastern States)

The Japan-United States Friendship Commission's Library Committee (Eastern States) held one of its day-long meetings on January 8, 1982. All four members, Eugene Wu (Harvard), Diane Perushek (Princeton), Hideo Kaneko (Yale), and Miwa Kai (Columbia), were present. (In September, 1981, Miwa Kai was designated interim member to fill the seat left vacant by Philip Yampolsky when he resigned from the East Asian Library, Columbia University.)

Since the building renovation and expansion of the East Asian Library is still not completed, the Committee met in the Stettheimer Room of Avery Library on the Columbia campus. Included on the agenda were items having to do with implementing an effective and rapid means of mutual communication and decision making and a wider dissemination of information regarding works in progress or under consideration.

As an outgrowth of past experience, a new feature is now being prepared for implementation which will invite the active participation of all institutions with Japanese Collections located in the Eastern States. The thrust of this endeavor will be to obtain more specific input from some twenty other libraries which make up the Eastern States community. A reporting system and clearing house to handle individual requests for specific titles to be acquired are now under study. Actual implementation and details of procedure will be reported in the next issue of the Bulletin.

An organizing subcommittee is currently being formed to plan and program the Eastern States Conference of Japanese Collection Librarians to be convened in New York in late May or early June. More concrete information will be made available through the Bulletin.

(Miwa Kai)

VI. Archival and Library Resources on East Asia in the Mid-Atlantic States

(Editor's note: The location of individual collections of manuscripts, papers, and archives--or even their existence--is often unknown. Students of East Asia therefore have reason to be grateful to Mr. Frank Joseph Shulman, Director, East Asian Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, who has organized and chaired a series of panels on this subject. Beginning in 1977, Mr. Shulman has conducted a panel of this type at each annual meeting of the Mid-Atlantic Region/Association for Asian Studies. Most of the papers presented at these panels have been published in the CEAL Bulletin, and sometimes in other publications also. Since the fifth of these panels was presented during the past year, on October 17, 1981, this seems an appropriate time to list the entire series and to indicate where each paper was published. One of the papers from the fifth panel--that by Charles R. Lilley and Harold K. Kanarek--appears in the current issue of the Bulletin. Other papers from this panel will appear in subsequent issues. In this connection it should be mentioned that still another panel on this general subject, entitled MISSIONS, MISSIONARIES AND MERCHANTS: MAJOR MANUSCRIPT AND ARCHIVAL RESOURCES ON CHINA AND JAPAN IN NORTH CAROLINA, which has been organized by
Kenneth W. Berger of Duke University, and in which Mr. Shulman will serve as a discussant, will be presented at the Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on January 22, 1982. We expect that papers from this panel will also appear in the Bulletin.)

1. SPECIALIZED ARCHIVAL AND LIBRARY RESOURCES FOR THE STUDY OF EAST ASIA WITHIN THE MID-ATLANTIC REGION


Resources on Twentieth Century China in Special Collections at the Pennsylvania State University Libraries -- Leon J. Stout, The Pennsylvania State University

(Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no. 55, March 1978, pp.49-52)

Publications and Unpublished Materials from the Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-1952) within the East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland, College Park -- Frank Joseph Shulman, University of Maryland, College Park


Resources on China and Japan among the Jesuit Publications in the Woodstock Theological Center Library, Georgetown University -- Ann Nottingham Kelsall, University of Maryland, College Park

(Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no. 54, Nov. 1977, pp.30-31)

The Holdings of the Japan Documentation Center, East Asian Institute, Columbia University, New York City -- Tamiyo Togasaki, Columbia University

(Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no. 55, March 1978, pp.52-54)

Resources on China, Japan and Korea within the Presbyterian Historical Society Archives in Philadelphia -- Kay L. Dove, University of Maryland, College Park

(Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no. 54, Nov. 1977, pp.27-30; and in Ch'ing-shih wen-t'ı, vol.4, no.3, June 1980, pp.130-34)

2. ARCHIVAL AND LIBRARY RESOURCES ON EAST ASIA IN THE WASHINGTON, D.C. AREA


North Korean Captured Records at the Washington National Records Center, Suitland, Maryland -- Thomas Hosuck Kang, Library of Congress (Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no. 58, Feb. 1979, pp.30-37)

Historical and Contemporary East Asia Resources in the Department of Agriculture Library -- Gary K. McCone, National Agricultural Library (Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no.58, Feb.1979, pp.21-24)


3. ARCHIVAL AND LIBRARY RESOURCES ON EAST ASIA WITHIN THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA


China Mission Archives within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania: A Preliminary Survey and Tentative Classification System -- Archie R. Crouch, China Studies and Research (29p. typescript, unpublished)


Resources on East Asia at the U.S. Army Military History Institute [Carlisle Barracks] -- D. Clayton James, U.S. Army Military History Institute and Mississippi State University (Published in the Committee on East Asian Libraries Bulletin, no.60, Oct. 1979, pp.11-16)


4. ARCHIVAL AND LIBRARY RESOURCES ON EAST ASIA IN THE METROPOLITAN NEW YORK AREA


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5. ARCHIVAL AND LIBRARY RESOURCES ON JAPAN AND CHINA WITHIN THE STATE OF MARYLAND


"The Golden Chain": Manuscripts on East Asia at the Maryland Historical Society (Baltimore) -- Karen A. Stuart, Maryland Historical Society

Political Change during the Allied Occupation of Japan (1945-1952): The Justin Williams Papers in the East Asia Collection, McKeldin Library, University of Maryland -- George Ware, Jr., University of Maryland, College Park


The Mary Cokely Wood Collection: Ikebana International Materials at the National Agricultural Library -- Ellen Anne Nollman, Freer Gallery of Art

(The above listing was compiled by Mr. Frank Joseph Shulman. Requests for photocopies of any of the unpublished papers should be addressed to him.)