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Librarians

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LIBRARIANS

Association of Research Libraries

PINGFENG CHI has been named Director of the Center for Chinese Research Materials of the Association of Research Libraries. Shirley Echelman, Executive Director of the Association, announced the appointment on February 1, 1983. Dr. Chi joined the CCRM staff as Associate Director in February 1982, and had been Acting Director since the retirement of Ping Kuen Yu in July 1982. Dr. Chi served as bibliographer and later Research Associate at CCRM from 1974-79, and then as Vice President and Chief Editor of the National Council for U. S.-China Trade Translation Service, Inc. His extensive experience in Chinese studies includes research assistantships at the Institute of Modern History of the Academic Sinica in Taipei and the Institute of Sino-Soviet Studies, George Washington University.

(From Association of Research
Libraries' press release)

University of Chicago

T. H. TSIEH has completed his study of "Paper and Printing in Chinese Civilization", a project supported by the National Science Foundation, National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the East Asian History of Science Trust since 1968. The work, consisting of a text of about 300,000 words in ten chapters and some 200 plates and figures of illustration, will soon be published in Joseph Needham's Science and Civilization in China, Vol. V, Part 1, and also as a separate monograph by the Cambridge University Press. Dr. Tsien was in Cambridge in October 1982 to consult with Dr. Needham for its publication and was nominated a Research Fellow of the East Asian History of Science Library and Centre. A new building for the Library and Centre is under planning on the campus of Cambridge University. After visiting Cambridge, Dr. Tsien visited the British Library in London, the International Book Fair at Frankfurt, the Sinologisch Instituut and Library at Leiden, and UNESCO in Paris. He is now working on a Chinese-language version of this book as a sequel to his Written on Bamboo and Silk, which ends before the invention of printing in China.

(James Cheng)

Columbia University

MIWA KAI, head of the Japanese section of the C.V. Starr East Asian Library, retired in June, 1983, after 39 years with the Columbia libraries. She plans to research the history of Columbia's Japanese collection in the years ahead.

Founded in 1927 by Ryusaku Tsunoda, lecturer in the department of Chinese and Japanese, the core of the collection was contributed by Baron Iwasaki, head of the Mitsubishi companies in Japan, who also provided operational funds for its first three years. The books, shipped from Japan, were housed in a fourth-floor room in Law Library. "Professor Tsunoda had a dream: he wanted to help end animosity between nations through education," says Miss Kai. "In order to do that, he needed books." The work of gathering Japanese books for the collection ceased during the difficult years of World War II. But Columbia had such a strong scholarly reputation in the area of East Asian studies, that Japanese individuals, educational institutions, and corporations were willing to contribute to the collection, and as soon as communication was reestablished after the war, these earlier connections were revived, and continue to the present day. "I would like to track down references to the Japanese collection in places such as President Nicholas Murray Butler's annual reports," explains Miss Kai. "It is a fascinating history that no one has had time to record."

Miss Kai understands at first hand the problem of animosity between nations. Although born in America, she spent much of her early life in Japan, and was interned in camps for Japanese-Americans in California and Utah during World War II. After a year and eight months of detention in the camps, she was released and came to New York to look for work. "I thought I would either wash dishes or babysit because I had no particular skills," she says. Instead, a friend suggested she try to get a typing job at Columbia. She began work as a typist in Butler Library in 1944, and shortly after that was transferred to the Japanese Collection. Miss Kai became involved in the work, and took classes in the Library School and in other departments to improve her knowledge of Asian literature and library techniques. "I like to track down references," she says. "I had no idea I was going to stay this long, but I get involved in things." Miss Kai became head of the Japanese collection after a few years. During her tenure, it had grown from 20,000 to 160,000 volumes. The collection is now one of the largest and best in the United States, and is especially strong in the humanities and social sciences. Over \$30,000 has been raised by the "Friends of Miwa Kai" for the C.V. Starr East Asian Library renovations. "I'm glad I've been here long enough to see the beginning of computerization of the libraries," says Kai. "I have had a taste of the 21st century."

(James Reardon-Anderson)

Harvard University

SUNGHA KIM, Assistant Librarian for Korean Acquisitions and Reference, was honored recently for his twenty-five years of continuing service to the University. Mr. Kim assumed his present position in the Harvard-Yenching Library in 1958, and since that time has overseen the growth and development of the Library's Korean-language collection to its position of pre-eminence among academic libraries in this country.

In addition to his library appointment, Mr. Kim also serves as Chairman of the Subcommittee on Korean Materials of the Committee on East Asian Libraries of the Association for Asian Studies, and is a member of the East Asian advisory panel of the Center for Research Libraries.

(Harvard-Yenching Library Occasional
Reference Notes, June 1983.)

University of Hawaii

MASATO MATSUI, Library Specialist, East Asia Collection, has received the Willard Wilson Distinguished Service Award established by the University of Hawaii Foundation for a person who has rendered distinguished service to the University. Dr. Matsui received a Regents' Medal at the University Commencement on May 15, 1983, and a cash award of \$1,000.00 at the Annual Meeting of the University of Hawaii Foundation on June 24. This award was the subject of an article in The Hawaii Hochi of June 8, 1983.

(Hisao Matsumoto)

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

WILLIAM SHEH WONG, Asian Librarian and Professor of Library Administration, is the author of two recent articles on Chinese publications. The first of these, entitled "Rarity in Books, a Traditional Chinese Approach to Appreciation," appeared in Libri, vol. 32, no. 4 (December 1982) pp. 278-283. In this article the author traces the Chinese concept of "rarity" from the Former Han Dynasty down to the late Ch'ing, and points out how and why the Chinese concept of rarity differs from that commonly accepted in the West. The second article, entitled "Acquiring Library Materials from the People's Republic of China," appeared in Library Acquisitions, Practice and Theory, vol. 7 (1983), pp. 47-57. The abstract at the beginning of this article reads: "In the course of the Four Modernizations Movement, the People's Republic of China has doubled its efforts to increase the book production level and also has relaxed export restrictions considerably, though materials available on the international market are still insufficient to meet overseas demand. Focusing on collection development in academic libraries in the United States, this paper describes the current Chinese publishing industry, outlining its distinctive features, with a brief discussion of the problems and implications for the acquisition of Chinese materials."

(E. G. B.)

Library of Congress

J. THOMAS RIMER has been appointed Chief of the Asian Division, effective August 1, 1983. Dr. Rimer comes to the Library from Washington University in St. Louis, where he has been Chairman of the Department of Chinese and Japanese since 1973. After graduation from Princeton University in 1954, he spent three years in military service, and eight years with the United States Information Agency, serving as Assistant Cultural Affairs Officer in Vientiane, Laos, and subsequently as Director of the American Cultural Center in Kobe, Japan. He received his master's degree from Columbia University in 1968 and his doctorate in 1971.

He is the author of Toward a Modern Japanese Theatre (Princeton University Press, 1974); A Guide to Japanese Poetry (with Robert Morrell, published by G. K. Hall and Co. in 1976); Traditions in Modern Japanese Fiction (Princeton University Press, 1978); and Mask and Sword (Columbia University Press, 1980). He has produced translations from both classical and modern Japanese literature, and has served for five years on the Joint Committee on Japanese Studies of the American Council of Learned Societies and the Social Science Research Council. A fuller account of Dr. Rimer's career will appear in the Library of Congress Information Bulletin, probably before the present issue of the CEAL Bulletin has been published.

(E. G. B.)

KEY P. YANG, Korean area specialist in the Chinese and Korean Section, Asian Division, Library of Congress, has been granted a lecturing award under the 1982-83 Fulbright Program. During a period of four and one-half months from March 1 to July 15, he will be lecturing to both graduate students at Korea University and to library students at Yonsei University, both in Seoul. This is his second such award from the U. S. Government.

(Boksoon Hahn)

University of Maryland

FRANK JOSEPH SHULMAN, curator and head of the East Asia Collection at the University of Maryland (College Park campus), has been elected to a three-year term (1983-86) as a representative of the Mid-Atlantic Region/Association for Asian Studies to the AAS Council of Conferences. In this role he will concurrently serve as a full member of the AAS Board of Directors. Inasmuch as he is the only librarian on the latter, he welcomes suggestions as to ways in which he could appropriately assist CEAL and the East Asian library community at large in his new position.

(E. G. B.)