Libraries and Institutions

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LIBRARIES AND INSTITUTIONS

Australian National University and the National Library of China Link China’s Information Sources to the Internet

In a major international resource-sharing initiative, the National Library of China and the Australian National University (ANU) have signed a letter of intent in Beijing to make Chinese periodical literature available globally via the Internet. The National Library of China staff will index Chinese journals, notably in economic, business, political, and social sciences, to provide an up-to-date analysis of Chinese information. ANU, through its Centre for Networked Access to Scholarly Information, will distribute this information around the world via the Internet directly to the terminals of interested scholars and libraries. Back-up document supply and information business analyses will also be offered.

ANU Library's proven expertise in network delivery of information, together with the National Library of China’s status as the leading information institution in China, combine to provide a unique information source to one of the leading economic powers of the twenty-first century. The service will begin in mid-1994.

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(From an e-mail posting from Tony Barry (ANU) on 24 June 1994.)

University of Alberta Library Invites Tsuneharu Gonnami to Consult about the Library’s Japanese Collection

The University of Alberta Library invited Mr. Tsuneharu Gonnami, Japanese Librarian of the Asian Library at the University of British Columbia, to visit its East Asian collection in April 1994, as advisor on the development of the Japanese collection. During the week of 18–22 April, Mr. Gonnami examined the vernacular Japanese collection and met with the faculty of the Department of East Asian Studies and other Japanese studies specialists. The University of Alberta Library benefitted much from Mr. Gonnami’s suggestions on priority acquisitions and from his proposal for further strengthening of the Japanese collection.

As of June 1993, the vernacular Japanese collection in the University of Alberta Library amounted to 6,945 volumes of monographs, while the entire East Asian vernacular collection totalled 42,112 volumes. With moderate funding, the collecting focus of the Japanese collection, as well as that of the Chinese collection, lies in language and literature. In line with faculty research interest, we are now placing more emphasis on Japanese women’s literature.
The University of Alberta Library has been a member of the East Asian program of the Research Libraries Group since November 1989.

(Louis Chor)

Innovative Interfaces Selected to Provide Software for Australian National CJK Project

The Deputy Director-General of the National Library of Australia, Eric Wainwright, announced on 7 September 1994 that Innovative Interfaces has been selected to provide software for the Australian National Chinese, Japanese, Korean (CJK) Project. INNOPAC software was selected because of the quality of its searching and bibliographic database functions, its ability to load data in various national MARC formats, its flexibility, and Innovative Interfaces' good record of customer support. It is expected that the system will be operational by early 1995.

The National CJK System will provide a database of bibliographic records for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean material with full support for CJK scripts. The database will initially contain half a million bibliographic records, from sources including LC, ABN, OCLC, RLIN, and Japan MARC. The CJK System will be the Australian national union catalog for CJK items, will provide copy cataloging, and will serve as an OPAC for libraries that do not have CJK script capability in their local systems.

A new feature of the CJK System's installation will be the use of the MASS software for input and display of CJK characters. MASS is a friendly, windows-based package that runs on PCs and Xterminals, allowing users to input CJK characters using a standard alphabetical keyboard. It uses Unicode and supports a number of other character sets including Greek and Jawi (an Arabic script). Innovative Interfaces will integrate MASS with INNOPAC as part of the implementation of the CJK System. MASS is a product of the Institute of Systems Science of the National University of Singapore.

The initial users of the system will be librarians and researchers at the Australian National University, Griffith University, Monash University, Murdoch University, University of Melbourne, University of Queensland, University of Sydney, and the National Library of Australia. A number of other Australian and overseas libraries have expressed interest in using the system and client numbers are expected to grow rapidly during 1995.

Access to CJK will be through the Internet as well as a gateway from ABN; however, gateway users will be restricted to a romanized view of the CJK database. Charges for new users are expected to be on a subscription basis rather than a per-command or per minute basis, and various levels of subscription will be available.

For further information contact Linda Groom, National CJK Project Manager, Tel (06) 262-1246; Fax (06) 273-4327; Email lgroom@nla.gov.au.

(Media release, National Library of Australia, 7.9.94)
OCLC Converts Chinese Titles for Harvard-Yenching Library

The OCLC CJK RETROCON staff is converting 42,500 Chinese titles in the Harvard-Yenching Library collection from catalog cards to machine-readable form. The converted records will contain Chinese vernacular characters. OCLC CJK RETROCON staff—who specialize in Chinese-, Japanese-, and Korean-language materials—will also upgrade or correct subject headings, personal and corporate name headings, and series titles.

OCLC has also signed a contract with Harvard-Yenching Library for the retrospective conversion of 17,000 Korean titles.

"This is the first phase of the library's RETROCON project," said Eugene Wu, Librarian of the Harvard-Yenching Library. "Because Harvard-Yenching is the largest university library for East Asian research in the United States, we believe our RETROCON efforts will greatly facilitate access to our large and important collection by the research community. We chose OCLC for this project because of its proven record in providing quality CJK retrospective conversion service."

"OCLC's CJK RETROCON service helps libraries to convert their card catalogs into machine-readable records and, at the same time, enriches the OCLC Online Union Catalog with East Asian materials for resource sharing," said Andrew H. Wang, Director, OCLC Asia Pacific Services Division. "OCLC takes pride in being chosen by Harvard University for its retrospective conversion projects."

OCLC has also undertaken CJK retrospective conversion projects for the University of California at Los Angeles; the University of Washington, Seattle; Washington University, St. Louis; St. John's University, Jamaica, NY; and the San Francisco Public Library.

(Media release, OCLC Online Computer Library Center, Inc., received 4 October 1994)

Bodleian Library’s Institute for Chinese Studies Library Opens Its Doors


The telephone numbers and staff of the Oriental Institute Library are listed below:

(01865-2) 78202 Enquiries (Main Library and Eastern Art)
" 78190 Fax (Main Library and Eastern Art)
" 80430 Enquiries (Chinese Studies Library) *****
" 80431 Fax (Chinese Studies Library) *****
The full postal address of the new library is as follows:

Institute for Chinese Studies Library  
Walton Street  
Oxford OX1 2HG  
United Kingdom

and mail intended for its staff should be sent to that address. Its OLIS location is: CSL.

Email for all libraries in the division should be directed to: library@orinst.ox.ac.uk.

(E-mail posting 19 Sept 1994 from Tony Hyder, Librarian, Oriental Institute Library)

Harvard-Yenching Library Announces New Travel Grant Program

The Harvard-Yenching Library is pleased to announce its travel grant program for the 1994-1995 academic year. The purpose of the grant is to assist scholars from outside the metropolitan Boston area in their use of the Harvard-Yenching Library's collections for research. There will be twenty grants of $250 each (eight each in Chinese and Japanese studies and four in Korean studies) to be awarded on a merit basis to faculty members and to graduate students engaged in dissertation research. Priority consideration will be given to those at institutions where there are no or few library resources in the East Asian languages, and no major East Asian library collections are available nearby. Each grantee will also be provided the privilege of free photocopying of up to 100 sheets.

Applications for the grant, including a letter, a brief description of the research topic, and an estimated budget, should be sent to:

Eugene W. Wu  
Librarian  
Harvard-Yenching Library  
2 Divinity Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02138

(Announcement from Harvard-Yenching Library received 3 October 1994)
University of Chicago Center for East Asian Studies Announces Library Travel Grant Program

The Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Chicago will award a limited number of travel grants for the 1994-95 academic year to assist visiting scholars from outside the Chicago metropolitan area in their use of the East Asian Library section of the Regenstein Library. Grants of up to $250 each will be awarded to help defray travel, living expenses, or a combination of both. Special consideration will be given to those residing in the Midwest and in areas where no major East Asian collection is available.

The East Asian Library houses over 432,500 volumes in Asian languages and ranks among the nation's five leading East Asian collections.

Interested applicants should submit a brief description of their research topic related to East Asian studies, a curriculum vitae, and a brief statement of their intended use of the library collection. All travel must be completed, and receipts forwarded to the Center for reimbursement, no later than August 1, 1995.

Address inquiries and applications to:

   Director, The Center for East Asian Studies
   Travel Grant Program
   Pick Hall 121
   The University of Chicago
   5828 South University Avenue
   Chicago, IL 60637-1515

(Announcement from the Center for East Asian Studies received 18 October 1994)