



2-1-1996

## Meetings and Conferences

Yasuko Makino

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal>

---

### BYU ScholarsArchive Citation

Makino, Yasuko (1996) "Meetings and Conferences," *Journal of East Asian Libraries*: Vol. 1996 : No. 108 , Article 6.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal/vol1996/iss108/6>

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at BYU ScholarsArchive. It has been accepted for inclusion in *Journal of East Asian Libraries* by an authorized editor of BYU ScholarsArchive. For more information, please contact [scholarsarchive@byu.edu](mailto:scholarsarchive@byu.edu), [ellen\\_amatangelo@byu.edu](mailto:ellen_amatangelo@byu.edu).

## MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

### European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists Conference (6th: Vienna, Austria: 27-30 September 1995)

The sixth annual conference of the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialists (EAJRS) was held in Vienna, Austria on 27-30 September 1995. The conference was held at the National Library of Austria, an exquisite baroque building which was built in 1726 by the order of Emperor Charles VI, and currently holds of 6.7 million volumes.

The theme of this conference was Japanese rare books, art, and artifacts in nineteenth-century Europe. Over forty Japanese resource specialists (librarians, researchers, and museum curators) gathered together for the conference, representing twelve countries: Austria, Australia, France, Germany, Great Britain, Japan, the Netherlands, Russia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United States.

The conference was opened by Dr. Matthi Forrer of the National Ethnological Museum of the Netherlands, the president of the EAJRS, with opening addresses by Dr. Margarethe Strassnig, the Librarian of the National Bibliothek, and his excellency, Mr. Tsuyoshi Kurokawa, the Japanese ambassador to Austria.

Mrs. Hiroko Yagishita of the Diplomatic Record Office, Tokyo, was the first speaker of the conference. The title of her paper was, "On the historical materials for Japanese emigration abroad in the Diplomatic Record Office, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan." The second speaker, Dr. Alexander A. Dolin of Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, reported on the activities of the Japanese Institute of New and Modern Literature (Nihon Kindai Bungakkan). His talk was followed by a progress report on the United Kingdom Catalogues Project by Noboru Koyama of Cambridge University in which six libraries, including the British Library and Cambridge and Oxford Universities, are participating using NACSIS-CAT. At the end of August 1995, there were 64,947 bibliographic records of Japanese books and 2,019 records of Japanese serials in this cooperative on-line romanized catalog project.

Dr. Peter Panzer of the Institute for Japanese Studies of Bonn University gave a very interesting talk on the history of Japanese collections in the Austrian National Library. The Japanese collection was started during the reign of Maria Teresa by scholars who had special interests in China and Japan. Many of the items in the library collection were part of the collection of Phillip Franz von Siebold, sold to the library by his son.

The second day of the conference was set aside for a special workshop on Nineteenth-Century Museum Collections of Japanese Art and Artifacts in Europe. Dr. Pilar Cabanas Moreno, Cultural Program Director of the Instituto de Japonologia, Universidad Complutense, Madrid, Spain, did a slide presentation of the collections of Japanese art in Spain from the

nineteenth century. Dr. Matthi Forrer spoke about the background and related anecdotes of the von Siebold collection at the National Museum of Ethnology, Leiden, the Netherlands. Johannes Wieninger of the Austrian Museum for Applied Art in Vienna also gave a talk about the von Siebold collections in Vienna museums.

Mihoko Miki of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA) talked about the history of Edo period publications at the UCLA Libraries as well as the effort to make information of these publications at UCLA available. Yasuko Makino of Columbia University, New York, followed Ms. Miki's talk and reported on the current status of Japanese rare book collections in the United States. She has conducted a small survey on the known Japanese rare book collections in the United States. A fellowship dinner was held at a traditional Austrian restaurant with lots of music, wine, and plenty of good food.

The workshop continued on Friday when papers by three librarians from Great Britain were presented: Hamish Todd of the British Library gave a slide presentation on "Japanese prints from the Sino-Japanese War in the British Library", Noboru Koyama of Cambridge University Library spoke on "Information transfer: a Japanese newspaper published in London in 1873", and Val Hamilton of Stirling University presented the talk "19th Century Western writings on mountains and mountaineering in Japan."

Yuri Karnaev of the Russian State Library of Moscow talked about the Japanese collection at the Russian National Library and Dr. Gordon Daniels of Sheffield University read a paper on the private papers of G. C. Allen, a British Japanologist. He was to do a study on Sir George Sansom also, but Sansom's private papers unfortunately could not be found at the Oxford University Library. Dr. Olga Moroshkina of the Russian Academy of Sciences talked about Japanese collections of the Moscow State University. Dr. Yulia Mikhailova of Griffith University in Australia read a paper titled, "Shaping Japan's image in Australia — Japan-related publications of the Center for the Study of Australia-Asian Relations.

Robert G. Flershem who resides in Kanazawa, Japan sent a paper to the conference on "A major collection: Tokugawa and early Meiji manuscripts of the Japan Sea, Tsugaru Straits and Hokkaido coastal regions." These manuscripts were photographed by Mr. Flershem and his wife. We were told that he is looking for a buyer for his collection.

Professor Hiroshi Onishi of the National Institute of Japanese Literature in Tokyo gave a very informative talk on "The National Institute of Japanese Literature Union Catalogue of Japanese old books: review and prospects." Mr. Yoshihiro Tanaka of the International Research Center of Japanese Studies in Kyoto gave a talk on the present state of the information system at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies. He had good news for those of us outside Japan: now we can request interlibrary loans through the Kokusai Nihon Bunka Kenkyu Senta (Nichibunken) by e-mail. Professor Masamitsu Negishi of the National Center for Science Information Systems (NACSIS) reported on the recent development of NACSIS systems and services.

Representatives of the National Diet Library, NACSIS, the National Institute of Japanese Literature (Kokubungaku Kenkyu Shiryokan), Kokusai Nihon Bunka Kenkyu Senta, and the Diplomatic Record Office read papers and we exchanged valuable information, including how to use international interlibrary loan procedures through Nichibunken and a move toward a CD-ROM edition of a periodical index, etc. All in all, twenty-three papers were presented at the conference. The annual business meeting of the EAJRS followed Professor Negishi's paper and the conference was concluded. An excursion to a thirteenth-century monastery, to a hill overlooking the Danube River and the whole city of Vienna, and a stop at a wine cellar in the Woods of Vienna were unforgettable experiences. In all it was a very well-organized and fruitful conference and I appreciated the support of my library in allowing me to attend.

(Yasuko Makino)

### Japan Art Catalog Project Meeting (Tokyo: November 1995)

Twelve attendees from the Japan side included museum directors and librarians as well as representatives from both the Japan Foundation and the Association for Cultural Exchange Japan (ACE Japan) who are involved in the project. From the American side there were four attendees. This project was officially named The Japan Art Catalog Project (JAC Project). The JAC Project is supported jointly by the Japan Foundation and ACE Japan with ACE Japan in charge of the execution of the project.

The group agreed on the following general principles. The project will start on a small scale albeit with emphasis on continuation. The Japan side collects and sends catalogs to the United States and will create its own bibliographic database. The US side selects a depository library and ensures the bibliographic control of and access to the catalogs received. The cost incurred in the US in this process is borne by the US participants and the cost incurred in Japan in this process is borne by the Japan side. The US side will investigate ways to transfer its on-line records to the Japan side.

In the first phase of this project, acquisition will focus on modern and contemporary arts. ACE Japan has already selected 165 core museums and 15 other major exhibition organizers. The number of catalogs from them is estimated to be around 540 titles per year. Two copies of each catalog will be collected, one for the US and one for Japan. In cooperation with museums, ACE Japan will develop a mechanism through which catalogs are systematically collected as gifts or, perhaps, by purchase. Once the system is operating we anticipate also receiving other types of publications from museums.

The National Coordinating Committee on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) will work on details of depository requirements and invite applications. The final details should have been posted sometime in January. Respondents to our survey in October totaled fifty-eight art museums and public libraries as well as research libraries.

(Yasuko Makino)