



6-1-1997

Call of Expression of Interest: Asian Materials Cataloging Seminar

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Melzer, Phillip (1997) "Call of Expression of Interest: Asian Materials Cataloging Seminar," *Journal of East Asian Libraries*: Vol. 1997 : No. 112, Article 11.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal/vol1997/iss112/11>

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CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

ASIAN MATERIALS CATALOGING SEMINAR

The Library of Congress wishes to ascertain if there is sufficient interest for an Asian Materials Cataloging Seminar, that would be open to all catalogers at institutions that currently participate in the Program for Cooperative Cataloging (PCC) or that will soon join the PCC. The Library wishes to expand the contribution of high-quality cataloging records in Asian languages and related to Asian studies by providing training and sharing expertise. The Seminar would be held at the Library of Congress, either just before or just after the meetings associated with the Association for Asian Studies (CORMOSEA, CEAL, and CONSALD) in March 1998.

The Library envisions the Seminar lasting two or three days. Should such a Seminar be held, the Library of Congress would not charge participants any fee for the class or materials. Attendees would be responsible for providing their own meals and accommodations. (The Library would be willing to reserve rooms at a nearby hotel, to the extent they are available, but attendees would have to confirm reservations with their own credit cards.)

Teachers would consist of LC staff, but other expressions of interest from experts in the field of Asian cataloging to serve as faculty would be most welcome. Participants would be encouraged to suggest topics, submit questions and problems, and to xerox facsimiles ahead of time so that they might be addressed in the Seminar. Some classes would be attended by all participants, while others might be subdivided by language or region. Here are examples of the topics that might be covered:

- NACO for Asian cataloging. The goal of this session would be to expand NACO contributions on Asian languages and in the field of Asian studies. Teachers would provide background on NACO and give a brief training session, emphasizing aspects of Asian cataloging on name authority work, including uniform titles. The session would be designed for 1) catalogers that are considering joining NACO, and 2) catalogers at institutions that currently participate in NACO, but who do not, themselves, participate in NACO. Catalogers experienced in NACO contribution of Asian cataloging records would also be welcome to attend.

- Series treatment for Asian material. This session will not deal with the submission of series authority records to NACO, but rather will focus on making series treatment decisions, handling multipart items, and dealing with complex series/subseries situations.

- Romanization and word division. Language-specific breakout sessions would be held. Background on the formulation of the guidelines would be provided. Sessions would focus on how to apply the guidelines in problem areas. These small groups would explore strategies for finding and dealing with inconsistencies in the database.

- Descriptive, subject, and classification aspects of difficult-to-catalog Asian material, such as

- Buddhist material, with an emphasis on the identification of texts and formulation of uniform titles;
- Asian art, especially such aspects as the selection of appropriate subject headings, and the cataloging of calligraphy and exhibition catalogs;
- Asian law material, particularly recent changes in the K schedule, and the formulation of uniform titles;
- Classical Asian texts and commentaries, focusing on choice of entry, analytical added entries, and the treatment of anonymous classics.

Following preliminary discussions at the Library, the Library now needs to hear from you in order to confirm that there would be enough participants to justify its holding an Asian Materials Cataloging Seminar. Please respond to this notice by August 10, 1997.

In responding, please indicate:

- if you are a PCC participant who would be interested in attending an Asian Cataloging Seminar
- if you are interested in becoming a PCC participant in order to attend an Asian Cataloging Seminar
- when you would prefer the Seminar to be held--before or after the Asian librarians' and AAS meetings
- what topics you want to be included in the Seminar; please feel free to suggest additional topics for consideration.

Please send your responses, comments and questions to:

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