Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon: The East Asian Library Collection at the University of Kansas

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I. Introduction

The University of Kansas East Asian Library (EAL) Collection supports the teaching, research and information needs of Kansas University students, faculty and staff. It serves as the East Asian information center for the people of the state of Kansas and beyond. The University of Kansas EAL is a state funded mid-sized collection started in 1959. The library was formally established in 1964 as an academic research library to support area studies developed by the Kansas University Center for East Asian Studies. Although the library has limited resources, it has grown every year to support major areas of East Asian studies and many unique programs as well. This article describes the EAL collection, the major programs it supports, budget issues, and collection development guidelines. It discusses the operation of the Library in cooperation with other institutions, and current collection development challenges as well. This article assumes that other mid-sized collections share many of the same challenges the library faces to develop and maintain a quality collection. I hope this article will generate further discussion among CEAL member libraries on collection development issues shared by the CEAL community; especially on the purchase of big ticket items such as electronic databases, big set reprints, and microfilm.

The University of Kansas East Asian Studies Program

East Asian Studies at KU have traditionally concentrated on medieval and pre-modern China and Japan, with an emphasis on history, art history, literature, religion and cultural history of traditional East Asia. The study of modern East Asia was added to the traditional East Asian studies in the early 1980s due to the growing importance of trade and political interaction with China, Japan, Korea and other East Asian countries. Inter-disciplinary courses in political science, communication, business, and international law were offered for the study of political, sociological, and economic developments in modern East Asian societies. The recent emphasis on international studies by the University of Kansas has produced an increased interest in modern East Asian studies among faculty and students from a variety of departments.

The Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) at the University of Kansas was founded in 1958. It promotes and coordinates a variety of activities and programs on East Asia for the University of Kansas. The Center for East Asian Studies does not itself offer classes and award degrees, but it coordinates inter-departmental academic activities dealing with East Asia. The Center is composed of forty East Asian faculty in nineteen departments and professional schools throughout the University, offering about 130 courses per year in such fields as literature, history, political science, art history, law, geography, religion, theater, anthropology, economics, business, and social work.
II. East Asian Library Collection

Collection History

In 1958 the University of Kansas established an East Asian studies program. From the onset, the KU Libraries supported the program through the collection of East Asian materials. In 1964 the KU Libraries established the East Asian Library (EAL) to facilitate the acquisition and processing of materials from that region. At the beginning the Center for East Asian Studies had substantial federal grants and optimistic prospects for continued support from government and the university. The founders of the East Asian studies program envisioned Ph.D. programs in all major subject disciplines. However, outside funding sources and support dwindled rapidly for the Center within the first five years of its founding. Consequently, by 1970 East Asian acquisitions funding was very irregular. The collection grew sporadically from 1970 to early 1980 and was dependent on the availability of outside funding for special purchases.

The bulk of the Chinese studies collection was purchased before 1970 during the years of generous funding when the U.S. dollar was extremely strong against the Asian currencies. The substantial part of the Japanese collection was acquired after 1970 when the funding had become uneven and the U.S. dollar had weakened substantially. Consequently, there is some unevenness in the collection.

Until late 1970’s, the major focus of East Asian studies at the University of Kansas was in history and art history Ph.D. programs. Since then the primary focus has shifted gradually to the MA level programs except in the history of art program. Consequently, the East Asian collection reflects the change of emphasis in that it has begun to broaden the scope of subject coverage rather than to develop depth. With the recent general recognition of East Asia's contribution to the world economy, there is a resurgence of interest in developing new programs with an East Asian focus. The academic focus of the East Asian programs seems to be shifting from an emphasis on the humanities to business, economics, and law. Those three areas were not emphasized in Asian studies at KU before 1980’s.

Traditionally, emphasis has been placed on collecting East Asian materials in the humanities. The EAL collections are particularly strong in the fields of art history, history, languages, cultures, and religion. Since the mid 1980s, the economic success and the business potential of East Asian countries have engendered substantial interest from the academic departments at KU which have not been previously associated with the East Asian Studies. In an effort to support the expanding East Asian interests and programs, emphasis has been placed on collecting social science materials, particularly in contemporary politics, business, law and women's studies. Much of the collection development has been accomplished with external funding sources and/or special one-time endowment money awarded by the KU Libraries.

Currently, the EAL supports the teaching and research needs of students and faculty throughout the university in nineteen departments and professional schools. The collections support the East
Asian Languages and Cultures B. A. and M. A. programs, and doctoral programs with an East Asian concentration in a number of departments in the humanities and social sciences.

The KU Libraries have been able to provide access to electronic materials since 1989. The EAL joined the OCLC-CJK membership in 1989 and has provided electronic bibliographic access to EAL holdings through the KU Libraries OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog) since then. Since 1995 the KU Libraries have provided patrons with access to the World Wide Web, on-line databases and CJK CD-ROM products. In addition, the KU Libraries established electronic document delivery for its patrons in the same year. The EAL added audio-visual material to its collections in 1997 to enhance and support teaching initiatives and outreach activities of the Center for East Asian Studies in the secondary schools.

Holdings

As of June 1999, the total holdings of the East Asian Library consisted of 178,298 volumes, which include 114,257 in Chinese, 61,995 in Japanese and 2,046 in Korean. The EAL has 1,406 serial titles with more than half of them currently received. There are also approximately 324,000 titles in western languages that support East Asian Studies.

According to 1997-1998 statistics published by the Council on East Asian Libraries,¹ the KU East Asian Library collection size is 22nd among sixty-nine CEAL East Asian collections and 11th among public universities, excluding private universities and non-academic libraries. The state budget appropriation is 20th, excluding other funding sources among North America East Asian collections. If private and non-academic libraries are excluded, our state budget is 10th among public universities. In comparison with seventeen comprehensive and undergraduate TitleVI NRC (National Resource Center of the International Program of the U. S. Department of Education.) East Asian collections, KU is 11th in its holdings, 12th in its state budget appropriation, 13th in endowment grants, and 11th in grants received in 1997-1998.² The EAL holdings are just above the University of Wisconsin and University of Pennsylvania and below the University of Arizona and Indiana University. The following universities have more state funds allocated to East Asian collections than KU, and are listed in descending sequence: Univ. of Michigan, UC Berkeley, UCLA, Univ. of Washington, Univ. of Pittsburgh, UC San Diego, and Ohio State University.

User Populations

The primary users of the East Asian Library (EAL) collections are over forty faculty members, and several hundred graduate and undergraduate students at the University of Kansas. The professors are members of various departments of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and in the schools of Architecture and Urban Planning, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Journalism, Law and Social Welfare. As part of their degree requirements, Master’s students in East Asian Languages and Cultures programs must be proficient in the Japanese or Chinese language and are

² *ibid.*, pp. [107-116]
therefore frequent users of the EAL collection. Other graduate students working in East Asian studies in the humanities or social sciences must be proficient in a language of the region to allow them to work on their field of specialization.

In addition to those patrons, several hundred students from East Asian countries who enroll at the University of Kansas each year with non-East Asian majors are visible users of the collection. Some of the students come to KU as participants in long-standing exchange programs with Japan and China. Many exchange and visiting scholars from East Asian countries that have various academic appointments with the University each year are also active users of the collections. The EAL collections also serve the information and resources needs of the people of the state of Kansas and beyond through reference assistance, interlibrary loan, and through outreach programs.

Collection Strength

Reflecting the major teaching and research activities during the past forty years, the East Asian collections are strong in art history, history, language and literature, religion, theater and drama, and Japanese women’s studies.

Description of the collections

Chinese Collection

The Chinese collection provides broad coverage of history, art history, language and literature, philosophy and religion, and sources for social science study of the modern period. It is particularly strong in the study of Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties (1260-1912), the study of China’s Republican period (1912-1949), the social and economic conditions of post Cultural Revolution China (1975-), and the history of modern China. To support those history related teaching and research activities, the EAL provides primary source local gazetteers from the Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties with a focus on Central China (Huazhong), North China (Huabei) and Northwest China (Xibei) regions. Individual authors from the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1912) periods, and authoritative collectanea (collections of collections or cong-shu, ts'ung-shu) are procured as primary resources. Those collections support doctoral level studies.

The collection is also strong in art from the Song and Yuan (960-1368), and Ming and Qing dynasties (1368-1912) for art history studies. The collection includes works of individual painters, museum and exhibition catalogs, biographies and writings of the literati painters, and period criticism and historical works on paintings. Buddhist paintings on studies of Dunhuang mural paintings, and history of Chinese calligraphy from the early period of 6th century to 10th century are relatively strong.
The Chinese language and literature collection is strong in traditional classical literature and contains literature histories, criticism, and representative literary styles of each dynasty. Important collections include Tang and Song poetry, Yuan and Ming drama, Ming and Qing novels and prose, Tang through Qing literary collections (wen ji), modern Chinese literature, and collections of the important 20th century authors. The collection supports graduate studies at the master level in the EALC department. Students in history and art history doctoral studies utilize the collection as well. Since its inception, the EAL has procured Chinese collectanea (cong-shu) of classical collections compiled by the Qing imperial government and other private collectors. Those collections of collections provide primary sources for traditional Chinese studies. One notable acquisition was the purchase of the Schindler Collection in 1965. That collection contained several hundred Chinese rare books of literature, history, and bronze inscriptions from the 17th century to late 18th century in original woodblock print format.

The collection for studies in philosophy and religion is relatively strong. Primary sources include the Buddhist Tripitaka with emphasis on the Chinese text of the sutra. The collection also supports art history studies of Buddhist paintings. Many titles in the microfilm collection also support research in the history and development of Christianity in China.

**Japanese Collection**

The EAL Japanese collection, established later than the Chinese collection, supports undergraduate and graduate programs. Ph.D. studies in history and art history are particularly strong. Therefore, the EAL collection has strengths in Japanese paintings, modern Japanese history, and literature of the medieval Heian period of classical writings and the 20th century literature of important authors.

The Japanese art history collection is particularly strong in paintings from the medieval period to pre-modern period of Japan. The collection covers the major picture scrolls produced between the Heian period and Muromachi period (794-1600). The EAL also has an extensive collection of Edo (Tokugawa) period (1600-1868) paintings and Ukiyo-e woodblock prints. The remarkable private Stern Collection was added to the EAL collection in the late 1970s and focuses on Japanese paintings especially on the Edo (Tokugawa) period. The EAL has constantly collected major publications and exhibition catalogs of established museums in Japan, thereby providing updated secondary resources to library users. The collection of materials on performing arts, especially kabuki and noh theater, is extensive. Written as well as visual materials on the performing arts are collected.

The history collection begins from the medieval period of pre-modern Japan. Particular emphasis has been placed on modern Japan from the late Meiji period to the early Showa periods. The collection is exceptionally strong in materials on the socialist/communist movement, including the original and reprint issues of journals and monographs published by socialist and communist groups in the 1920s and 1930s. The collection also holds extensive

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3 Description of the Japanese Collection is by Michiko Ito, EAL Japanese Studies Librarian.
materials on Taiwan, Chosen, and Manchuria (Manchukuo) under the Japanese occupation. Of special note is the collection of original military maps of Manchuria (Manchukuo) created by the Kwangtung Army during the 1930s. The Japanese history collection is the strongest collection in general and covers important primary sources supporting M.A. and Ph.D. level studies.

In terms of social science disciplines, concentrated effort has been made to collect materials on Japanese minority issues, in particular, discrimination against the Buraku people and on women’s studies. The EAL has collected materials that examine the historical as well as contemporary problems of the Buraku people. Additional concentrated efforts have been made to collect materials on the status of Japanese women, including the recent issue of comfort women from the period of World War II. The EAL has acquired several reprinted women’s journals originally published between the Meiji and early Showa periods with grant support from the Japan Foundation and the NCC Multi-Volume Set Grant. The EAL has become enriched with reprinted journals of proletariat literature that is closely related to the early feminist movement in Japan.

Korean Collection

Traditionally, the University of Kansas has not emphasized Korean studies. Therefore, the EAL Korean language collection consists of core reference works that have been acquired primarily as gift books in history, language and art history. In 1996, the EAL purchased a small number of Korean materials to support a grant funded Korean position in the East Asian Languages and Cultures Department at KU.

Periodicals

It is financially impossible for a mid size library to collect all newspapers and periodicals available for East Asian studies. Therefore, periodicals including newspapers are collected selectively to support the teaching and research needs of the University. Selections are based upon an evaluation of the subject areas taught, research projects, and faculty recommendations. In addition to the purchase of periodicals, the National Central Library in Taiwan and the National Beijing Library have given gift titles to the EAL. Since 1995, the EAL home page has provided public access to current online newspapers available on the World Wide Web.

English language materials

Vernacular library materials are supported by western language materials on East Asia studies housed in the general KU Libraries collection, Murphy Art and Architecture Library, Government Document and Map Library, and the Special Collections of the Spencer Research Library. The western language materials supporting East Asian studies consists of more than 324,000 volumes in history, art history, literature, language, philosophy, religion, political science, sociology, anthropology, theater and drama, and geography. Through approval plans and in coordination with other subject specialists, the KU Libraries acquire most English language scholarly and academic publications on East Asian studies produced in North America to support basic undergraduate and graduate research in most of the professional schools.
Other important on-campus resources are video collections collected by the Center for East Asian Studies and audio-visual language materials operated by the Language Laboratory. Those are primarily directed at teaching support for classroom use and are staffed by personnel in the above units.

Access to the KU collections

Anyone affiliated with the University may use the KU collections on site. All visiting faculty and students along with all residents of the state of Kansas are given borrowing privileges. Other patrons can also be granted borrowing privileges. In addition, the online catalog is available through the World Wide Web at: http://www.lib.ukans.edu/. The collections are also available off-site through interlibrary loan.

Collection Locations

Vernacular materials are housed in the East Asian Library on the fifth floor of the main library (Watson Library) as well as in the 4 1/2 Center Stack. In addition, Watson is home to most western language materials on East Asia except art history materials. East Asian art history materials are housed in the Murphy Art and Architecture Library. Selected low use materials and ceased periodical titles under the Dewey classification scheme are housed in the 1 North level of the Anschutz Science Library. Finally, the Spencer Library of Special Collections houses the rare book holdings in East Asian languages.4

Library Acquisition Budget

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<th>FY94-FY99 Budget</th>
<th>94</th>
<th>95</th>
<th>96</th>
<th>97</th>
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<th>99</th>
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<td>128,969</td>
<td>149,62</td>
<td>763,216</td>
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The entire budget is spent on East Asian language materials. In addition, the KU Libraries spend approximately $30,000 per year acquiring non-Asian language materials (English, French, German, etc.) through the approval plans and through other subject funds to support East Asian studies at KU.

4 Most of the CJK manuscripts were acquired to supplement KU Special Collections cosmopolitan printed holdings of natural history which emphasize ornithology and botany dated from fourteenth century to nineteenth century.
The EAL budget is funded mainly by the state of Kansas as part of the University of Kansas Libraries' acquisition budget and is distributed to the EAL at the beginning of each fiscal year according to bibliographer budget requests. Those requests go to the Library Collection Management Council for evaluation of appropriate fund distribution among subject areas. In recent years, state funds averaged approximately $107,000 and comprised 81% of the total budget. Other sources of support come from endowment funds and external grants, including Title VI funding, that equals 19% of the total materials budget. The East Asian non-continuing materials budget (including monographs, microform, reprints of one-time serials, periodical back file, and audio-visual materials), usually categorized as the monographic fund, equaled 73% of the state fund with the rest of state fund supporting serials subscriptions. Monographic Chinese and Japanese materials are sub-divided under the state-funded portion of the monographic fund. The EAL has purchased several hundred Korean titles with Title VI library support money since mid 1990's. While there is no regular Korean budget at the present time, a Korean studies focus currently is under development by the Center for East Asian Studies. Once the initial Korean studies collection budget is seeded by external grants and gifts, and the state budget is established, the Korean collection will be expanded in a more complete way.

Endowment money is released to the KU Libraries by the Library Administration each year. The available amount of money varies from year to year, so bibliographers have to make requests based on the availability of funds for that year. Generally, materials requested on endowment funds are expensive items that the EAL can not afford to acquire through regular state funds.

External grants and gifts opportunities pursued by bibliographers include national and private foundations, the Center for East Asian Studies Title VI NRC grant library support, state or regional grants, and institution Gift and Exchange programs. Recent grants include the National Coordinating Committee on Japanese Library Resources Multi-Volume Set Project (funded by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission), Kansas Library Network Interlibrary Loan Development Program (ILDP), and the Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art Studies. The Center for East Asian Studies Title VI Library Support grant has been an important supplement to the EAL acquisition budget. That fund has subsidized through the annual endowment grant major purchase requests for Korean materials, for enhancement of the audio-visual collection

5 Budget request form includes information of: I). User Information: Primary department(s) supported by fund; Field(s) or track(s) in departments; Significant changes in numbers of faculty and/ or graduate students; Significant use of materials bought by this fund by other depts. or user groups: special user circumstances. II). Discipline Characteristics: Impact of the approval plans; Is the discipline primarily book or serial dependent? To what extent is the discipline dependent on foreign publications? From what countries? What is the impact of electronic format materials on the discipline? To what extent does document delivery and/ or interlibrary loan affect the discipline? What other library collections impact the development and use of this collection? III). Trade Information: Average book price paid in each of the last five years; Average serial price paid in each of the last five years; Expected inflation/cost increase for books; Expected FY99 inflation/cost increase for serials; Recent changes in publishing/marketing trends affecting collections in discipline; IV) Reasons for increase in base funding for discipline and amount.

6 Chaired by the Dean of Scholarly Communication and Collection Development. Membership includes one each representative from the fine arts, humanities, social sciences, science and technology, and international studies groups.
established by the ILDP grant, for materials to support outreach teaching activities, and for microfilm collections that fill gaps in major newspaper collections.

Special gift programs including that of Kanagawa University are very valuable. Our sister university gave a five-year gift (1995-1999) in commemoration of its founder’s 90th birthday. The gift was given mostly in areas of Japanese business, economics, art history, and literature of women’s studies selected by EAL through commercial book dealer catalogs. Bibliographers have also selected available gifts from the National Central Library (Taiwan) and the Korean Foundation catalogs according to collection development policy. Gifts from individuals can be valuable as well. Those gifts total several hundred volumes each year. Except the Kanagawa gift, which has a set range of volumes and price range, gift values are not estimated.

III. Guidelines for Collection Development

These guidelines refer only to East-Asian language materials. East Asian bibliographers in consultation with East Asian faculty select materials in East Asian languages. The librarians serve as liaisons between the EAL and the Center’s faculty to ensure that the collection meets the information needs of the academic programs. Bibliographers for other language or subject areas generally select the works on East Asian Studies in European languages, in consultation with the EAL librarians. The Center’s Library Committee is available for consultation if any faculty requests seem to be in conflict or out of the library budget scope.

Collection Priorities

The first priority of the East Asian Collection is to acquire current published core materials in East Asian Studies, with special emphasis on reference sources, key journals, and important bibliographies and indexes. Titles from major publishers and museums, and works which directly support teaching and research in art history, history, literature, religion, East Asian statistics, business and government, Japanese women’s studies, and Japanese minority studies are also priorities for the collections.

Collection Scope

Chronology: From antiquity to the present, with special emphasis on the medieval period in history, art history and literature.

Formats: All formats are included, chiefly printed books and journals. Some microfilm serial sets are acquired when no hard copy is available. Multi-media videotapes, audio tapes, slides and photos have been included since 1997. The electronic database of the Bibliography of Asian Studies and CD-ROM versions of People’s Daily and many stand-alone CD-ROMs have been added since 1998.

Geography: China, Japan, and a minor emphasis on Korea; and peripheral regions that impact on East Asia.
Languages: Chinese, Japanese, and some Korean.

Publication Dates: Current publications and some reprints of earlier works in Chinese and Japanese collections.

Source of Materials

Books from East Asian countries, academic journals, government publications, and museum exhibition catalogs are individually selected and ordered. The approval plans also include major new publications in all areas of East Asian studies in western languages from major publishers and university presses in North America.

The EAL has gift and exchange programs with national libraries, some major universities and institutions in East Asia. Titles are selected according to collection guidelines. In exchange, titles published by KU departments, museums or schools are offered to partners. Many academic journals and periodicals are received at the EAL as a result of continuous Gift and Exchange relationships with East Asia partners. Gift books are commonly given to the EAL and are evaluated for inclusion in the collection with the same criteria as a purchase decision.

Selection Tools

The EAL selects most materials from major commercial dealers’ catalogs and lists from specialized dealers. The following are the most important dealers for our use: Joint Publishing Company, Hong Kong and Shanghai; Man's Book Co., Hong Kong; Chiao Liu Publication Trading Co., Hong Kong; China Book Co., Hong Kong; Han-wen, Hong Kong; Tai Yap, Hong Kong; China Post, Taipei; Linking, Taipei; Longwind, Taipei; China National Publishing Industry and Trading Corp., Beijing; Wen wu chu ban she, Beijing; Zhong hua shu ju, Beijing; Japan Publications Trading Co., Tokyo; Isseido, Tokyo; Gannando, Tokyo; Geibundo, Tokyo; Maruzen, Tokyo and New York; and Pannum Book Co., Seoul. The dealers’ weekly lists are regularly reviewed to identify new publications that might be appropriate for the collection. Many lists compiled by dealers contain citations or reviews of new titles that help the process of selection decisions. Despite all the input, the final purchase decision is based on EAL collection strength, university teaching programs, faculty research interests, graduate student research topics, undergraduate students study and research needs, and the projected need for the future development of the collection.

A special arrangement has been established for collecting Japanese museum exhibition catalogs. Since Japanese art exhibitions are largely held in department stores and prefecture museums, catalogs of such exhibitions are not usually available through major book dealers. The EAL has been working with an art books dealer in Japan for the last twenty years to purchase art exhibition catalogs using a special approval plan.
User Input

All faculty and students are welcome to submit purchase recommendations to the EAL. Patrons may submit their requests on the KU Libraries web page, OPAC front page or by suggestion directly to the EAL staff. In addition, appropriate faculty members are often consulted on the purchase of expensive titles. Finally, the East Asian faculty has established a library committee to provide consultation and advice to the EAL bibliographers.

Subjects Excluded

Ephemeral works, textbooks except for some language readers, translations of Western literature into East Asian languages, and works on science in general are excluded.

Collection Evaluation

Collection evaluation projects are conducted every three to five years. The librarians check collection holdings against major bibliographies7 in specialized areas. In consultation with the appropriate faculty the librarians work to fill in the lacunae.

Major Challenges for Collection Development

A major challenge for collection development is that book selection is almost totally based on information provided by dealers. Therefore, knowledgeable and reputable dealers must be used. Making book selection even more difficult is the fact that book reviews are published six months to few years after the title appears. By the time the reviews are published, most research titles are long out of print. East Asian research monographs are published in very small quantity and can only be acquired for a relatively short period of time (from a few weeks to a few months). Major commercial dealers control the quantity, the distribution, and the price of most new publications. Once a publication is sold out, it is very hard to acquire.

Acquiring new journals and periodicals is also extremely difficult. New journals published in East Asian countries are seldom advertised in advance of their publication. Most new journals can only be identified after the first issue has been published. In addition, journal subscription prices have witnessed increases of 10% to 13% annually. Most of those increases are due to the ever-increasing cost of overseas postage. Daily newspapers from East Asian countries can cost $700 to $900 a year with most of the subscription price going to cover airmail postage. We subscribe to the major national newspapers of China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, and Hong Kong for language studies and research. The EAL decided to reduce costs by having all newspapers

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delivered by sea mail rather than airmail. We also subscribe to "North America overseas editions" for informational purposes. Since the Internet can provide real time news, we hope the airmail issue will disappear soon.

Another challenge is to identify and acquire government publications, especially statistics publications. Unfortunately, those publications are usually not included in major dealer catalogs. Special arrangement has to be made to acquire government publications from Japan or Taiwan.

Cost of publications is also problematic. The price of materials varies immensely from different sources. If one chooses to contact the publisher direct, the price might be cheaper, but delivery and service is usually unpredictable. The quality of service and delivery is guaranteed by going through major dealers. However, the EAL pays more for quality service. In addition, some major serial titles have converted to electronic publishing since 1996. The electronic format costs several thousands each year, a substantial increase over the cost of the paper publication, and it is difficult to justify the acquisition of such high priced materials when there are so many other areas to cover. Basically, the high cost of electronic journals and databases threatens the continued development of the EAL collections that still strongly emphasize the humanities.

The vast number of new publications, the price difference between dealers and publishers, the challenge of hard to find materials such as government publications and museum catalogs, and the high cost of art related materials make the selection process a demanding task.

In the past few years, East Asian electronic resources have developed into standardized formats with specific system requirements. The price of some new products are reasonable, and some offer direct sale discounts; others offer easy payment arrangements. Therefore, it is now possible for mid-sized libraries to acquire some essential electronic materials rather than treat them as luxurious or elite resources. Currently there are many electronic databases that are copies of the original printed works but also provide “value added” or “enhanced” features in electronic format. Those essential works for research libraries now provide key words, title and author search capabilities. For years modern researchers have had great difficulty using big sets, newspapers, and periodicals that have no accumulative indexes or table of contents. The retrospective conversion cataloging of big sets with analytical entries helps immensely to find specific materials in the core of traditional collections, but electronic key word search capability is more desirable to find information in a timely manner. That feature may justify the purchase of materials in electronic format already owned by the library in standard format, to provide researchers with easy to use tools and indexes for difficult-to-use materials. However, considering the widely scattered user population we serve and the geographic distribution of campus and consortium, web versions of electronic resources are even more preferred from the public service point of view.

Unfortunately, the East Asian electronic publishers have yet to work out the web version licensing issue. The current East Asian single or multiple users licenses do not accommodate the network environment. Most university campuses already have essential databases running non-East Asian material on local area networks (LAN).
The KU Libraries Electronic Information Council approves the electronic materials purchase requests of individual bibliographers. The Electronic Librarian is an ex-officio member of the Council who determines the language of each contract and license agreement, in consultation with the university attorney and copyright law specialist. The East Asian electronic products have not yet developed LAN use license agreements and contracts at this time. There have been some conditions in East Asian publishers’ proposed license agreements that the university attorney considers violation of the "Fair Use" law that libraries normally practice.

CD-ROMs from the East Asian region are sometimes restricted to one workstation, with circulation and interlibrary loan prohibited by license agreement. The immense price of some of these electronic resources makes it impossible for a mid-sized library to obtain them, and restrictions may make it impossible to borrow them or have remote access to them from another source. The library patron may be forced to travel a great distance to use such material. This is a setback to the ability of a library to provide access to needed materials through interlibrary loan or document delivery. A possible solution is for CEAL member libraries to deal with electronic resource dealers as a consortium, so that purchase of big ticket resources could be shared among CEAL member libraries. It would be far better for thirty to forty libraries to have consortial access to those electronic resources instead of merely three or four libraries. The producers and dealers would have greater profit from wider circulation and usage of their materials under a proper license structure than a few sales of stand-alone resources. If publishers focus only on immediate short-term profit without our support and encouragement, they will have no sustained market. I fear that unless this problem is addressed, scholarly research, study and teaching on East Asia will be severely hindered in the electronic age. If access and circulation is restricted by dealer contract, only a very few will have access to material in electronic format. The suggestion has been made in previous CEAL conferences that an information agency such as OCLC FirstSearch Service could mount CJK electronic databases centrally and charge members a service fee for access to the databases, or that CEAL could work as a consortium for electronic acquisition. These both appear to be reasonable solutions to this dilemma.

Cooperative Arrangements

The University of Kansas Libraries are members of OCLC and OCLC-CJK, the Center for Research Libraries, and the Big Twelve Plus Consortium⁸ and actively participate in interlibrary loan.

Since the EAL is not close to any other major East Asian collections, faculty and students must rely on our monographic collection for primary research, but are still able to use document delivery and interlibrary loan services to supplement the serial holdings at KU. Of special interest is the strong Chinese art history collection at the Spencer Art Reference Library at the

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⁸ Big Twelve Plus Consortium includes Baylor University, Brigham Young University, Colorado State University, Iowa State University, Kansas State University, Linda Hall Library, New Mexico State University, Oklahoma State University, Rice University, Southern Illinois University, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University, University of Arkansas, University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Houston, University of Kansas, University of Missouri at Columbia, University of Nebraska - Lincoln, University of New Mexico, University of Oklahoma, University of Texas at Austin, University of Utah, and Utah State University.
Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. Cooperation between the two libraries and with the Murphy Art and Architecture Library has been on-going for many years. This year the three partners are working toward a more established policy for future collection development and reciprocal relationship for interlibrary loan policy.

The nearest large collection is the University of Texas at Austin Asian Library collection, which is the only other major East Asian collection in the Big 12 Plus Libraries Consortium. Other major collections are the University of Chicago East Asian Library collection and the Center for Research Libraries at Chicago. Their extensive collections on China and Japan are useful resources to supplement our collection for in-depth research topics. The University of Kansas is a member of the Center for Research Library, and the CRL online catalog can be easily accessed from KU online catalog system.

In the Big 12 Plus Libraries Consortium, other Asian collections include the Asian collection at the Brigham Young University, the East Asian Library at the University of Colorado at Boulder, and the East Asian Collections at the University of Iowa.

Future Direction of Collection Development

EAL collection development has reflected the emphasis of academic teaching and research activities in the past, and will continue to work to support the priorities of the KU East Asian studies community in the future. Because of the ever-increasing cost of acquiring materials in all formats from the region, it is becoming more and more difficult to provide in-depth collection development.

In recent years the EAL has worked to strengthen its traditional humanities core collection of history, art history, literature, and language. At the same time it has worked to develop collections that support new programs in social sciences and professional schools. External funding sources have been utilized to supplement the collection development budget. Those funds have been used to acquire materials in government and politics, education, international relations, business, economics and women’s studies.

The KU East Asian studies are enhanced and expanded with the assistance of Title VI funds from the Department of Education. The continued growth and development of these programs creates a challenge for the EAL. Like most state-funded universities, library funding at KU has been unable to keep pace with inflation. As a result, it is difficult to find the funds to acquire materials to support new subject areas while continuing to develop the core collections.

A major new Korean concentration will be developed in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures. That development will allow a B. A. degree in Korean language and literature or an M. A. degree in East Asian studies with a concentration on Korea. Presently, the EAL Korean collection is not adequate to support such a level of study. Korean studies have not yet been a high priority at KU and the EAL collections reflect that priority. External funding
would need to be utilized to develop the Korean collection to the point where it could support the academic programs.

IV. Technical and Public Services

The EAL selects, purchases and catalogs all materials in East Asian languages and also provides public service for East Asian subjects. In order to successfully fulfill its mission, the EAL works closely with many other library departments and units. The EAL works with various units in Retrieval Services including serials receiving and claims, gift/exchange, and interlibrary loan for the acquisition and payment of materials. The EAL works with the Cataloging Department, particularly with its authority unit, and serial cataloging unit for cataloging issues. Access Services provides circulation, periodical and microform services, reserve service and fines; and the Preservation Department provides other support services for the East Asian Library. The EAL also works closely with the Art and Architecture Library that houses all the art materials that the EAL purchases and catalogs.

The EAL has been a member of OCLC-CJK (Online Computer Library Center-Chinese Japanese and Korean) cataloging system since 1989, and all cataloging work has been done online through the OCLC-CJK database since then. Currently, more than 60% of our holdings are accessible through the KU integrated online system from local or remote access. The Retrospective conversion project to convert records in the card catalog into online records is a continuous effort of the department’s Retrospective conversion project. The EAL has cataloged 5,000 to 6,000 titles per year for the past several years. Old manual brief records have all been converted to online record in mid 1990’s. The EAL staff concentrates its efforts on work that requires specialized language skills in technical services. The central KU Library units handle services that do not require special language skills.

Public service includes providing reference service and instruction in bibliography and library research methods in both printed and electronic resources related to East Asian studies. It also includes conducting library tours and K-12 outreach activities. The EAL created and maintains a home page to guide patrons to East Asian resources available on the World Wide Web. The EAL is actively involved in the Center’s outreach activities by conducting resource sharing conferences with elementary and secondary language and social science teachers, sharing resources with K-12 students, and compiling resources for secondary school teachers for teaching East Asia subjects.

V. Staffing and Support

The library’s reporting channel was reorganized in 1996 from a hierarchy line to a more group collegial management structure. The EAL is part of the KU Libraries international program, which reports to the KU Libraries Coordinator of International Programs. The program consists of four area studies components and is under the Assistant Dean of Technical Service and Coordinator of Collection Development.
Staffing

The EAL has one Chinese Studies Librarian and one Japanese Studies Librarian. Both are tenure track faculty positions. Other professional staff provide part time cataloging support equal to 0.2 FTE. The support staff in the EAL includes eight to nine part-time graduate students each semester equal to 3.75 FTE.

The EAL support staff are graduate student assistants who are fluent in an East Asian language and work fifteen to eighteen hours per week. Their work is mostly technical and includes bibliographic searching in local and national databases prior to ordering, producing purchase orders, copy cataloging, serials database maintenance, binding preparation, card production and filing. With the appropriate level of supervision the EAL students make up a remarkable workforce.

Several other librarians play key roles in the development and operation of the East Asian collections at the University of Kansas Libraries. Two other librarians support EAL technical service operations by providing cataloging assistance. One catalogs East Asian serials and the other assists in cataloging Japanese monographs. The Bibliographer for History plays an active role identifying and acquiring western language materials for East Asian studies. The Art Librarian assists the staff of the EAL on the development of the East Asian art collections. The KU Library Cataloging Department librarians and staff support the EAL cataloging operation in establishing authority files. The Preservation Department supports bindery preparation by making labels and repairs. Access Services handles all of the East Asian Library materials circulation and shelving. Retrieval Services assists the department by acquisition of Western language materials, invoice processing for payment, billing, compilation of statistics, serials receiving, serials accounting, purchasing, and interlibrary loan services. The EAL function is concentrated on reference service and technical service for vernacular material on East Asian subjects. All other services are performed by the main library.

VI. Conclusion

Chen Shou’s San guo zhi (Records of Three States) describes Zhuge Kongming, an outstanding unemployed person, as the sleeping dragon. That concept became the idiom "Wo long cang hu" or “Wo hu cang long” which means "sleeping dragon, hidden tiger" or “crouching tiger, hidden dragon.” It is a double phrase to emphasize the meaning of "outstanding but unnoticed." The KU EAL collection is a hidden treasure in the Land of Oz. I have shared the library's basic history, growth, collection guidelines and operations, along with issues of collection development that remain a challenge. I hope other librarians can share their own struggle to build up their collections and stimulate discussion of mutual concerns.