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"JAPAN-RELATED LIBRARIANS' MEETING"
SPONSORED BY THE JAPAN FOUNDATION TORONTO

Following the successful colloquium held last year in March 2000 ("Librarians' Colloquium: The Current State of Japan-Related Collections in Canadian Libraries"), Ms. Mariko Liliefeldt of the Japan Foundation Toronto Library organized a second gathering of librarians and Japanese specialists entitled "Japan-Related Librarians' Meeting," which was held at the Foundation's office on June 23, 2001.

Participants came from across Canada and included those interested in Japanese information for business research needs as well as academic institutions. The following were in attendance. Everyone introduced their institutions, describing their collections and their personal responsibilities.

Shaney Crawford	Japan Society (Toronto)
Tomoko Goto	University of British Columbia
Jack Howard	Royal Ontario Museum
Miwako Kendlbacher	University of Toronto
Lynne Kutsukake	University of Toronto
Mariko Liliefeldt	Japan Foundation Toronto
Peggy Perdue	Japan Foundation Toronto
Eiko Shaul	Shaul InfoResearch
Macy Zheng	McGill University

The Director of the Japan Foundation Toronto, Mr. Suichiro Ogino, and the Deputy Director, Ms. Sanae Tada, also attended and gave opening and closing remarks.

There were short reports on several different topics. M. Liliefeldt reported on the Japan Foundation Library Meeting she attended in Japan, which brought together librarians around the world working in Japan Foundation libraries. She also described the Japan Foundation copy service, contents sheet service, and the Union catalogue for Japanese periodicals in Germany. L. Kutsukake provided background information about NCC and CEAL, introducing recent initiatives that might have particular interest to all: the Task Force on Consortial Database Licensing and the Ask An East Asian Librarian website. She also described the NCC's Multi-volume set project.

J. Howard gave a presentation on the Fifth Japan Foundation - NDL Librarians' Training Program, which he attended in Tokyo at the beginning of the year. He distributed an extensive list of URLs compiled from the handouts he had received in the Training Program. He also described the databases available through NACISIS-IR.

Many different topics arose during the discussion period. T. Goto described the growing need at her institution for subject-specific bibliographic instruction for Asian languages.

M. Liliefeldt described a trial case using the copy service from the National Diet Library for individuals. E. Shaul shared a list of web-based business resources she uses when conducting her commercial research for companies. M. Zheng, a new East Asian Librarian, shared some of the challenges she faces in trying to build a collection.

Several participants expressed the opinion that a more formalized Japan-related librarians' group in Canada would be helpful. T. Goto agreed to set up and maintain a listserv to provide a means of facilitating communication among the group. The group expressed the hope that another meeting be held in the future and that, if possible, it take place in a different city and region of Canada.

Reported by
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