



10-1-2005

Retirements

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Cheng, Jim; Riedy, Allen; Tanji, Lorelei; and Liu, Wen-ling (2005) "Retirements," *Journal of East Asian Libraries*: Vol. 2005 : No. 137 , Article 11.

Available at: <https://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal/vol2005/iss137/11>

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RETIREMENTS

Dr. Richard Wang

In July 2004, after eighteen years of dedicated service, Dr. Richard Wang retired from his position as the Chinese Studies Librarian at the University of California San Diego Libraries.

Dr. Wang received his BA in Law from the National Taiwan University, his M.L.S. from the Rutgers University, and his M.A. and Ph.D. in Chinese History from the University of Virginia.

Dr. Wang began his library and academic career at Ladycliff College, Highland Falls, N.Y., as Assistant Librarian and Assistant Professor from 1963 to 1967. Afterwards he was Bibliographer/Cataloger at the University of Virginia Libraries until 1972. From 1972-1975 he worked as Graduate Instructor in Chinese Language at the University of Virginia. He then was Associate Professor and the East Asian Librarian at the University of Minnesota Libraries from 1976-1988 before he was recruited by the UCSD Libraries as Chinese Area Studies Librarian.

Dr. Wang's publications include "Southern Ming in Chinese Periodicals: A Tentative Bibliography, 1910-1979," *Ming Studies* 10 (Spring 1980):38-64; "A Reappraisal of Comrade Wu Han's Biography of Zhu Yuanzhang by Chen Wudong," (translated by Richard Wang) *Ming Studies* 11 (Fall 1980):27-30; *Ming Studies in Japan: A Classified Bibliography, 1961-1982* (Minneapolis, Minn.: Ming Studies, History Dept., University of Minnesota, 1985); *Area Bibliography of China* (Lanham, Md.: Scarecrow Press, 1997).

Dr. Wang maintained active memberships in the Association for Asian Studies (AAS), Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and the Librarians Association of the University of California (LAUC). He has also served in the San Diego Chinese communities, including the San Diego Chinese Historical Society and Museum, and the Chinese Language School in North County.

In the late 1970s, right after the Cultural Revolution in China and when he was affiliated with the University of Minnesota, Dr. Wang was a member of the first group of librarians from the U.S. who visited China to establish professional U.S.-China relationships for libraries and librarians. Dr. Wang's experience was instrumental in establishing and developing the UCSD Libraries' Chinese resources for both the International Relations and Pacific Studies Library and East Asia Collection, which won him distinguished and widely-acknowledged fame within a relatively short period. Dr. Wang has also been highly valued by the faculty and students for his excellent reference and instructional services at UCSD. His professional knowledge of the bibliography of Chinese Studies and his wide connections among Asian librarians in the U.S. proved invaluable in identifying and locating rare sources for UCSD scholars, especially for the fine group of young Ph.D.s produced by the modern Chinese history program. Dr. Wang is also a self-taught artist in the areas of Chinese calligraphy and water color painting with a keen eye for the library's Chinese art book collection.

After his retirement, in addition to many other plans, Dr. Wang hopes to contribute some of his time to an Education Foundation in China, which will help students from poor areas of the country.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Dr. Richard Wang for his great achievements during his library and academic careers and offer my best wishes upon the opening of another new frontier in his life.

Jim Cheng, Head International Relations and Pacific Studies Library/East Asia Collection
University of California, San Diego

Susie Cheng

Susie Cheng retired as the China Specialist Librarian from the University of Hawaii's Asia Collection in August 2004.

Susie began her library career as the Chinese Cataloger in the East-West Center Library (Honolulu) in 1965. In 1967 she moved to Great Britain and worked as a part-time Chinese cataloger at the University of York Library. In 1974, Susie joined the Cataloging Department at the University of Hawaii Library commencing a career of 24 years as the library's principal Chinese cataloger. From 1995-1998, she held joint positions as Chinese cataloger and China Specialist Librarian in the Asia Collection, where she assumed responsibility for collection development and selection of Chinese language and western language materials about China and provided China-related reference service. In March 2001 Susie was appointed Interim Head of the Asia Collection, a position she held until September 2002.

Susie's contributions to the development of Chinese resources at the University of Hawaii for 30 years are enormous. As a cataloger she made the wealth of Chinese resources held at UH accessible locally and nationally. As a bibliographer, she identified and brought into the library these resources. Nationally, Susie served on RLIN's East Asian Cataloging Subcommittee, was a member of the Editorial Group for the RLIN East Resource Guide Project, and a member of CEAL's Pinyin Liaison Group.

We wish Susie a well-deserved long, prosperous, and happy retirement.

Allen Riedy, Head, Asia Collection, University of Hawaii

William Sheh Wong

Dr William Sheh Wong (UCI Asian Studies Librarian) retired from University of California Irvine Libraries at the end of December 2004. Bill was hired in 1990 as UCI's first East Asian Librarian and was instrumental in building the East Asian Collection from scratch. Over time, the scope of Bill's duties broadened and his title changed to Asian Studies Librarian.

Bill enhanced the UCI Libraries' East Asian Collection via five successful Japan Foundation grants, and via donors and organizations/foundations who gave us collections as gifts (*Chinese*: National Palace Museum [Taiwan] Collection and The Ni Tse Collection on Yijing Studies; *Japanese*: Noma Collection and Terashima Collection; and *Korean*: Daesan Foundation Collection and the Korea Foundation Collection).

The UCI Libraries' East Asian Collection now numbers 90,000 volumes and supports the interdisciplinary research and teaching of several departments on campus (East Asian Languages & Literatures; History; English & Comparative Literature; Art History; Film & Media Studies; Philosophy; etc.), as well as the Center for Asian Studies. The collection is a fitting legacy to the hard work and dedication that Bill has shown over the years.

Bill made significant contributions in his previous places of employment (selected list):

- 1978-90, Asst. Director of General/Technical Services for Asian Library, University Libraries, and Professor of East Asian Studies, Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies. University of Illinois, Urbana.
- 1984, Visiting Professor of Library & Information Science, Tamkang University, Taipei, Taiwan.
- 1971-78, Head, East Asian Library and Associate Professor, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota
- 1970-71, Chief Bibliographer, Loyola University Libraries, Chicago, Illinois

In addition, Bill has been an inspirational leader in numerous professional organizations and the recipient of various honors:

Professional Organizations

- International Association of Orientalist Librarians (President, 1993-1997; Secretary-Treasurer, 1983-1990)
- Association of College and Research Libraries (Chair, Asian, African, and Middle Eastern Section, 1999-2000; International Relations Committee, 1998-1999; Liaison to Association for Asian Studies, 1993-1996; Samuel Lazerow Fellowship Award Committee, 1993-1997; Doctoral Dissertation Fellowship Committee, 1990-1991)
- Council on East Asian Libraries (Executive Committee, 1979-1982; Committee on Chinese Materials, 1987-1993; Committee on Publications, 1977-1981)

Honors

- Council on Library Resources Fellow, 1977-1978
- Fulbright Research Fellow, 1984-1985
- The Illinois-Tamkang Program Research Award, 1988-1989
- Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for International Scholarly Exchange Travel Grants, 1994, 1996
- Association for Asian Studies' China and Inner Asia Council Research Awards, 1996, 1997

Lorelei Tanji, Assistant University Librarian, Collections
University of California, Irvine

Chung-Ming Lung

Ms. Chung-Ming Lung (龍宗敏), East Asian Studies Librarian, University of Virginia, retired on June 1, 2005, after more than three decades of service in East Asian libraries. Modest, witty, resourceful, dedicated, friendly, and cooperative -- these are the words Chung-Ming's colleagues use to describe her.

Ms. Lung is a native of the Yi (彝) ethnic group from China and granddaughter of Yun Lung (龍雲), Governor of Yunnan Province from 1927-1945. She was born in Kunming (昆明) and then, as she says, "drifted to Hong Kong and then to Taiwan"¹ with her parents because of the political turmoil and the civil war in China. She spent her childhood in Hong Kong and graduated from the First Girls' High School in Taipei. In 1967 she received a B.A. degree in Sociology from National Taiwan University. Following the trend of pursuing a higher education abroad, she attended graduate school at the State University of New York at Albany. Thanks to the university tuition waiver program as well as the chance to work part-time at the Dudley Observatory Library, she received an M.A. degree in Sociology in 1969 and an M.L.S. degree from the School of Library and Information Science in 1970. Her work experience at the Dudley Observatory Library was cheerful and inspiring. Ms. Lung remembers her supervisor, Mrs. Chris Bain, as considerate, encouraging, thoughtful, fair, and kind. This experience may have motivated Ming to pursue a career in librarianship.

Ms. Lung's first encounter with East Asian librarianship was her 1971 employment as Chinese Cataloger, East Asian Library, Yale University. Her genial personality and reliable work attitude again won her very helpful and supportive librarian mentors. "Mr. Henry Lin, Ms. Ying, and Mrs. B. Hahn each taught me cataloging skills (pre-automation) and rules (pre-AACRII) with great patience and encouragement," she said, "and we became lifelong friends."

¹ Based on a phone interview with Chung-Ming Lung.

She left Yale in 1978 to work as Assistant Librarian at the Freer Gallery of Art, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D.C., where she was responsible for cataloging print materials acquired by the Gallery and providing reference assistance to users. This work experience enhanced Ming's understanding of Chinese culture and, at the same time, broadened her appreciation of other cultures.

In February 1982 Ms. Lung became the first East Asian Bibliographer ever employed to manage the collection development of East Asian materials and support the faculty and students in East Asian Studies at the University of Virginia. Unbeknownst to her, she was one of very few East Asian female bibliographers in North America.² A one-man operation, Ms. Lung was in charge of selection, development, and processing of East Asian language materials as well as reference services in support of faculty and students in East Asian Studies. She was instrumental in bringing the OCLC CJK system to the University of Virginia Library and in making it a participant member of the OCLC CJK database. Karen Marshall, Director of Humanities & Social Sciences, said at Ms. Lung's retirement party, "in the twenty-three following years she built her career, she built relationships, and she built our East Asian Collection."³ The most rewarding aspect for Ming was to acquire truly needed materials for users, and in return to receive simple praise or a short note of appreciation.

In 1995 her responsibilities were expanded because of the creation of the Humanities and Social Sciences Department. As the Librarian for Asian & Middle Eastern Languages & Cultures (AMELC), she was in charge of the collection development of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean materials, and served as library liaison to the academic department of AMELC. This is the position she held until her retirement.

"An early adopter of web technology, . . . she single-handedly created and maintained the *Chinese Text Initiative*" (<http://etext.lib.virginia.edu/chinese/index.html>) developed in 1997. It provides free access to texts of selected Chinese literature together with introductions, commentaries, images, and translations. Texts included in this site are: [300 Tang Poems](#) (唐詩三百首), [Gu Yao Yan](#) (古謠言), [Shi Jing](#) (詩經), [Hong Lou Meng](#) (紅樓夢), [The Complete Poems of Yu Xuan Ji](#) (魚玄機詩集). Ms. Lung was tireless in dealing with copyright issues, grant applications, and text selections. To this date, this database, one of the most heavily linked and used resources related to full-text Chinese literature, serves as a model to many people interested in constructing similar databases. In support of the Chinese language teaching program, Ms. Lung cooperated with AMELC faculty to create the *Chinese Literature in Translation* site (http://faculty.virginia.edu/cll/chinese_literature/). She also served in an advisory capacity on the project *Traditions Of Exemplary Women* (列女傳; (<http://jefferson.village.virginia.edu/xwomen/>)) developed by Professor Anne Kinney, and made several trips to the National Library of China in Beijing to negotiate contracts and select texts.

Ms. Lung was an active member of the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) since she began her career at the University of Virginia. Her participation in CEAL-sponsored workshops and related groups, such as the OCLC CJK Users Group, helped the visibility of the East Asian collection at the University of Virginia Library. Ms. Lung, often dressed in a navy-grey suit with a white blouse, was always attentive and observant in the meetings. Through networking at the conferences, she developed gift & exchange programs with academic and national libraries in China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. In addition, she made several book-buying trips to China and Taiwan to find new resources and to forge partnerships. Because of her leadership, the collection (currently around 80,000 volumes) is now one of the important East Asian resource centers in the southeastern United States. Her dedication in building up a substantial East Asian collection has earned her the admiration and respect of many students, faculty, and library colleagues who have had the privilege of working with her.

² According to the *Directory of East Asian Collections in North American Libraries, 1982-1983*, Ms. Lung was one of twelve female East Asian Bibliographers in North America. The others were Ai-Hwa Wu, Su-Lee Huang, Yenshew Lynn Chao, Shizue Matsuda, Yasuko Fukumi, Nancy Chen, Diane Perushek, Teresa Yang, Anna U, Sachiko Morrell, and Irene Hurlbert.

³ Most information about Chung-Ming Lung is based on statements made by Karen Marshall, Director of Humanities & Social Sciences, at Chung-Ming's retirement party on May 10, 2005.

Retirement gives Ms. Lung ample time to be with her mother and to play tennis--her favorite sport. She credits her parents for it. They pushed her to learn tennis in junior high, and she has kept playing it ever since. "Tennis has kept me fit and happy, and above all, I have made many friends on the courts," she said over the phone. "My parents also introduced me to cats and dogs. I have two cats at home, and I walk dogs as volunteer at the local animal shelter." While her tennis partners and her animals will continue to enjoy Ms. Lung's company, her colleagues will greatly miss her. We wish her all the best!

Wen-ling Liu
Indiana University

Agnes Chung Wen

A highly respected and much-liked librarian, Agnes Chung Wen (鍾昆) retired on January 17, 2005. Her retirement party on January 11 drew more than one hundred well-wishers, including colleagues, faculty, and friends from the East Asian Library and East Asian Studies Program at the University of Pittsburgh. They congratulated Ms. Wen on this much-deserved milestone and wished her good luck on her future endeavors. Always engaging, courteous, and graceful, Ms. Wen greeted the crowd and told them that she was simply an enthusiastic librarian proud to have been a professional for over thirty years. She was grateful to her colleagues in the East Asian Library and to the nurturing environment of the University of Pittsburgh.

Ms. Wen was born in Kunming (昆明), Yunnan Province, and spent part of her childhood in Guangzhou (廣州). The entire family moved to Taiwan in 1949 in the wake of the civil war in China. After receiving a B.A. degree in 1964 in Foreign Language and Literature from Soochow University, Taiwan, Ms. Wen came to the U.S. in 1965 and studied one semester at the Graduate School of Library Science at Texas Woman's University, Denton, Texas, before she moved to Kentucky. With the aid of a scholarship from Catherine Spalding College, Spalding University, Louisville, Kentucky, she received her M.L.S. degree in 1967. In 1984, she received a Certificate of Advanced Study in Library and Information Science, University of Pittsburgh. She participated in numerous workshops sponsored by the Council of East Asian Libraries (CEAL) to keep herself abreast of changes in the field of library and information science.

After a brief summer job at the National College of Business, Rapid City, South Dakota, Ms. Wen started her professional career in 1967 as a part-time Reference Librarian at the Earth and Mineral Science Library, Pennsylvania State University. She was promoted to Senior Assistant Librarian at the same library four years later. This position allowed her to start the Asian Collection at the Pennsylvania State University with a very limited budget.

In 1974, her entire family moved to Pittsburgh. After her younger daughter entered elementary school, Ms. Wen, in July 1981, started her tenure at the University of Pittsburgh Library as a Serials Specialist and Microform Cataloger. In 1984, she served briefly as Interim Deputy Curator of Acquisition and Technical Services. Between 1985 and 1994, she served as Head of Technical Services, East Asian Library. She was instrumental in bringing the OCLC CJK system to the University of Pittsburgh library.

In 1994, Ms. Wen briefly served as Acting Head for the Chinese Collection after the retirement of the East Asian Studies Librarian, Thomas Kuo. She successfully led the East Asian Library through library reorganization during this transitional period. In recognition of her thoughtful and helpful personality and her familiarity with the various kinds of services offered in the Library, Ms. Wen became Public Services Librarian of the East Asian Library in 1995, a position she held until her retirement.

Aside from participating in many library committees at the University of Pittsburgh and community outreach services in Pittsburgh, Ms. Wen is an active and loyal member of CEAL. She enjoyed trips to China with colleagues from CEAL and strengthened her skills in both public and technical services through attending CEAL workshops. Among them was the 2nd Summer Institute of East Asian Librarians held at

University of Washington, Seattle, in 1988. It was there that she began to sharpen her knowledge and skills of emerging technology related to East Asian Studies. Ms. Wen was one of the librarians involved in the development in 1998 of the Chinese Gateway Service Center⁴ administered by the East Asian Library. The Center provides full-text document delivery service to researchers who cannot find needed Chinese journal articles in North America. Ms. Wen made a well-received presentation on the Gateway Service Center during the CEAL annual conference in 1999.

Another memorable library experience was being selected twice as Head Librarian for the Semester-at-Sea aboard the ship S.S. Universe in 1992 and 1997. In charge of the collection of over 10,000 volumes of books on the ship, she was able to provide reference services while traveling around the world along with 1,200 selected students and teachers.

Writing is one of the hobbies Ms. Wen has pursued since 1980. In addition to her many published articles and project reports in the field of librarianship, she is a contributor to the U.S.-based Chinese newspaper *Shi jie ri bao* 世界日報 and author of the recently published *Changing Flowers* (海外浮生, 2004). Most of her stories touch upon the persistent struggles of immigrants and the powerful bonds between generations of people, especially Chinese-Americans.

Even though she misses her duties and her colleagues in the University of Pittsburgh Library, with whom she worked for more than twenty years, she is enjoying the freedom offered by her retirement. She has joined a health club at Pittsburgh, and swims a lot. She goes to church regularly, and is able to spend more time with her relatives and friends. In fact, she and her husband just visited their four-month-old granddaughter in San Francisco. We are sure that Ms. Wen, though retired, will keep in close contact with her colleagues in the East Asian library profession, and we look forward to reading more of her stories.

Wen-ling Liu
Indiana University

⁴ The Chinese Gateway Service Center was established in 1998, spearheaded by Peter Zhou, Head of the East Asian Library, University of Pittsburgh Library, from 1996-2000. The Center has since then become Gateway Service Center for Chinese and Korean Academic Journal Publications, <http://www.library.pitt.edu/libraries/eal/Gateway-Home.htm>