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# CEAL Committee Activities

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## **CEAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

### **Committee on Chinese Materials**

#### **Annual Meeting 2007**

Time: 10:40 - 12:30, Thursday, March 22, 2007

Place: Salon A-C, Boston Marriott Copley Place, Boston

#### **I. Chair's Opening Remarks and Introduction of Members**

#### **II. Roundtable: Toward Digital and More Diverse Collections and services - Approaches from Chinese Libraries Outside North America**

(Please see CCM Website for copies of the presentations

<http://www.library.ucla.edu/libraries/eastasian/ccmweb/Program2007.htm>)

**Facilitator: Zhijia Shen**

**YAN Xiangdong. National Library of China (NLC)**

**Matthias Kaun. Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin (SZB)**

**Angela Ko & Mei Li. University of Hong Kong (UHK) and Hong Kong Polytechnic University (HKPU)**

**CHEN Hsueh-hua. National Taiwan University (NTU)**

**ZHANG Qi. Shanghai Library (SL)**

**CHEN Ling. CALIS**

#### **III. Reports:**

The Chair then announced the 3 reports to follow the Round Table.

1. Project of digitizing Chinese rare books among the Harvard-Yenching Library, Princeton, the Library of Congress and the Fu Ssu-nien Library of the Institute of History and Philology of the Academia Sinica in Taiwan. Reported by Tai-Loi Ma (Princeton University)

Dr. Ma announced that the Harvard-Yenching Library, the Library of Congress, the Fu Ssu-nien Library and Princeton's Gest Library have just received a grant of \$580,000 from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation for a joint Chinese rare book digitization project among the 4 libraries. The final agreement for this three-year project was signed in February of 2007. In July 2007, the three American libraries will each send two staff members to the Fu Ssu-nien Library to learn about this project on-site. The three American libraries were chosen because they have the largest and the finest rare book collections in the country. Each library will select and submit 130-150 titles each for the project. The Fu Ssu-nien Library will offer rare Ming collected works and classics, LC will provide Qing collected works and local histories, Princeton will put in Ming and Qing collected works as well as medical works, while Harvard proposes to digitize their unique editions. In general, duplication of titles already in large reprint series will be avoided. The participating libraries will use metadata format set up by the Fu Ssu-nien Library. To contain the cost, the libraries will create a high quality image database without a corresponding full-text database. The details in the

metadata will provide additional access points besides traditional searches by title, author, publisher and collector. The main database will reside at the Fu Ssu-nien Library. Both Princeton and Harvard plan to make their products available to the public as soon as possible. But the Fu Ssu-nien Library and the Library of Congress plan to publish their portions in print first before they release them to the public, which may be two or three years later. After this initial project is completed, other libraries in China and North America may be invited to participate in the project at a later date.

A question regarding public accessibility to the database was raised. Dr. Ma responded that the whole database will be accessible to all eventually, as that is one of the conditions of the grant.

## 2. Cultural Revolution database online: an update Reported by Yongyi Song (CSULA).

Mr. Song introduced the Cultural Revolution database as the East Asian librarians database as four East Asian librarians, and three teaching faculty were involved in its making. In 2002, the first Cultural Revolution database was published, but it is now out of date. In 2006, they published an update to the CD, but that was not enough. Currently 3000 documents already take up 40% of the database. Updates to an online version are easy to do, while CDs are too expensive to update. In the coming years, no more CDs will be published. Mr. Song suggested that libraries subscribe to the online version.

They have also received a grant and have signed a ten-year contract with the Chinese University of Hong Kong, the China Studies Center and the Chinese University Press to publish a political campaign historical database of contemporary China, covering all the political campaigns from the beginning of the People's Republic of China through the Cultural Revolution, 1949-1976, including the socialist educational movement. They will publish periodically campaign by campaign. This database will be finished in 10-15 years and will be all online. The online subscription is \$1,050 for three years, which includes new and future updates in the three years.

Another project has to do with Red Guard publications. This came from a donation of source materials by Japan scholars. The project will include 2,700 titles, 200 titles more than the holdings in the National Library of China. The set is primarily made up of sources from the provinces. Mr. Song invited everyone to pick up brochures for these publication projects before leaving.

## 3. Chinese Materials Center in Beijing. Reported by Marcia Ristaino (Library of Congress).

Marcia Ristaino retired from LC a year ago, and she is now representing the US-China Policy Foundation which has recently joined with the National Library of China to set up a new library center in Beijing. This is the Chinese Materials Services Center established in September 2006 by Wang Chi of the Foundation, (formerly head of the Chinese Section of the Library of Congress.) This new facility is located in offices of the National Library of China. The Center can provide the following services to libraries in America and world wide:

- Every ten days, the Center website will mount lists of 150 titles published in China that can be viewed and ordered online. These will include books, newspapers, journals, microfilms, CDs, and other electronic materials.
- Online cataloguing of titles is available for smaller libraries that may not have full staff to catalogue CJK materials.
- The Center can provide tailored lists of current titles of selective topics of interest.
- Supply photocopies of missing serial issues and volumes from the holdings of the National Library of China.
- Search the antiquarian market for out of print titles or issues.
- The pricing of books will be the list price of the book as it appears.
- The Center will also assist scholars and librarians on acquisition trips to Beijing, by providing them with information on collection resources and locations.

Marcia then announced that the booth for the Chinese Materials Center in the Exhibit Hall is number 103. She also invited participants to the Center's reception Friday evening at 9:00.

At the conclusion of the reports, the Chair reminded everyone that the Committee for Chinese Materials will hold its second year e-Content Forum Friday evening. She also expressed her appreciation to Wanfang Data for sponsoring this year's refreshment for the Forum meeting.

#### IV. Questions & Answers

Q: To UHK, on e-books acquisition vendors, models, payment and services.

A: The vendors of e-books with UHK are Apabi and Superstar; one-time purchase model is applied; the server and maintenance of Apabi products are located in Beijing; the server and maintenance of Superstar products are located locally in UHK.

Q: From Chair to all presenters, on institutional budgetary increase and adjustment to address pricing difference between print and digital materials and overall price growth of materials.

A: NLC: Strategies include reducing secondary materials; emphasizing collection development of Chinese language materials by using the mandatory submission of sample books by publishers, and for non-Chinese language materials, reducing science materials and increasing materials of humanities and social sciences; and securing funds totaling 110 million *yuan* on increased, specialized programs.

SL: Using mandatory submission of sample books by publishers to help collection development; emphasizing exchange programs through "Shanghai Window"; increasing budget for collections of serials (about 10,000 in Chinese and 5,000 in foreign languages) and books (about 80,000-90,000 volumes); emphasizing e-acquisitions by increasing e-books and reducing books in paper format.

NTU: Funding mainly comes from the Ministry of Education budgets and alumni support. One method for alumni support is to subscribe to serials for the library. The National Digitization Program that NTU participated in can be used for NTU's own digitization projects, and copies for the National Digitization Program can be retained at NTU to expand library collections.

CALIS: The Ministry of Education inspires and leads resource creation and subsidizes acquisitions such as JSTOR for institutions, which share the costs.

SZB: Collection development and budgets are complicated in Europe as a whole, but SZB has a regular budget for collection development. Fund raising with public and private sources is also important. Take *Ji be gu ji ku*, while its acquisition was complicated and difficult, it has been turned into a part of a national project. IT infrastructure, user services, and technological solutions have been jointly addressed.

Prepared and submitted by Chengzhi Wang and Anna U.