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From the President

Joy Kim

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the very first peer-reviewed JEAL! I thank Gail King, JEAL Editor, and the JEAL Editorial Board for their hard work, which allowed for a smooth transition. I also congratulate and thank Tao Yang for being JEAL's very first peer-reviewed author.

This issue also marks another history-making event for JEAL: CEAL and EBSCO signed a license agreement to make JEAL's content available via EBSCO, starting with this issue, Number 153. We now have *all* the issues of JEAL (including the most recent issue) made available freely on the CEAL Website, <https://ojs.lib.byu.edu/spc/index.php/JEAL/>. We are excited about the anticipated impact of this change on expanding JEAL's readership. Again, I thank Gail King for spearheading this project.

The CEAL-LC Internship Program Agreement has been formally signed by both parties, and recruitment is underway. The selected interns will each receive cataloging training by experienced LC catalogers and a scholarship for up to \$1,000 from CEAL upon successful completion of the program. This program is managed by the CEAL Committee on Technical Processing (CTP). Inquiries should be directed to: Shi Deng, CTP Chair (sdeng@ucsd.edu) or the members of the Subcommittee, Yue Shu (shuyue@si.edu), Yoko Kudo (yokokudo@ucr.edu), or EunHee Nah (enah@fas.harvard.edu).

A Special Committee has been appointed to recommend a new CEAL Logo, with the following members: Rob Britt (Chair), Susan Xue, Setsuko Noguchi, Yunah Sung, Gail King, Peter Zhou, and Joy Kim (Ex-Officio). We hope to recommend a new logo for a vote of the general membership in February 2012.

Various CEAL Committees are working hard to create stimulating programs at the next annual conference in Toronto, to be held Wednesday and Thursday, March 14-15, 2012. This year, AAS panel sessions begin on Thursday at 4 p.m., rather than Friday morning as they usually do. This has a significant impact on CEAL programming—each CEAL session must be shortened by 30 minutes. In addition to our regular sessions, pre- and post-workshops on specific topics (such as RDA and Korean rare-books) are being planned, so please watch for announcements before making travel arrangements.

There was an unexpected change in the CEAL Executive Board membership. Dawn Lawson resigned her post as CEAL Secretary to be a Fulbright scholar for 2011/2012 at Jōsai International University [城西国際大学], outside Tokyo. She will be doing dissertation research on Japanese women writers and translators of the late 19th century. Congratulations, Dawn! As fellow librarians, we are proud of

your scholarly achievements! Beth Katzoff, the runner up in the last election, graciously agreed to serve the remainder of Dawn's term. Thank you, Beth!

In this column, I have highlighted our colleagues' extraordinary contributions to CEAL (Gail King in no. 151, Vickie Doll in no. 152). For this issue, I would like to thank **Rob Britt** and **his predecessors** for their collective contributions to the CEAL Website (<http://www.eastasianlib.org>)

The CEAL Website has been an important communication and networking tool, an archive, and a knowledgebase for our profession, to name only a few of its vital functions. We tend to take it for granted because it has become so much a part of our professional lives. Let's all stop and remember, however, that this resource is a result of many years of hard work by many of our CEAL member colleagues.

The CEAL Web (along with the current CEAL logo) was originally created by **Bob Felsing** of the University of Oregon around 1994/1995. As the first chair of the Committee on Library Technology (CLT) 1996-1999, Bob was a real pioneer for CEAL online. Subsequent CLT Chairs continued to improve the original website (**Rob Britt** 1999-2002, **Wooseob Jeong** 2002-2005, **Xian Wu** 2005-2008, and **Rob Britt** 2008-)

Rob Britt, the current CLT Chair and Webmaster who has been maintaining the CEAL Website longer than anyone else, deserves special recognition. In 2007, Rob reorganized the CEAL server and CEAL website in such a way that all CEAL committees can share information about their work easily. By creating a distributed structure, Rob has placed updating responsibilities in the hands of those who supply the information. By empowering each committee to manage its own site within the CEAL structure, Rob fosters the efficient and timely updates of important information, as well as creativity. Rob also works closely with the Membership Committee and the CEAL Treasurer to maintain the online CEAL Directory database. The database and its online interface were originally created by **Jim Cheng** (Chair, Membership Committee 2004-2007) on the foundation provided by **Doris Seely** (Secretary, 1994-1997, 2000-2003). Later, with Jim's help, Rob moved the Directory to the CEAL server, and provided convenient online access on the CEAL website. One recent new feature on the Website is the CEAL News blog (<http://cealnews.blogspot.com/>). Anyone can post his/her own messages there after being invited by Rob. Also, the CEAL Jobs blog (<http://cealjobs.blogspot.com/>) is a convenient place to look for recent job announcements by East Asian libraries. There are links to both of these blogs in the light yellow link bar on the CEAL website. I encourage everyone to take advantage of these new communication tools. The "hacker attack" in July 2009 could have been a major disaster for CEAL, but thanks solely to Rob's heroic effort we survived it mostly unscathed. When Rob found malicious files in the root directory of the CEAL server, he needed to delete all

the files and restore the system from backed up files. He also changed all the passwords for the site, including the FTP passwords for CEAL folders. Working with the Internet Service Provider, Parcom, he made sure that all of the infected files were removed and that no “hidden” malware remained. All this took a great deal of his time and effort, but most of us were unaffected. His conscientious backup activities made the data loss minimal. We owe him a great deal of gratitude for his outstanding service. My work as President is much easier because of the excellent and efficient website, his prompt updates, and his other services as a member of the Executive Board.

On behalf of all CEAL members and CEAL Web users, I salute Rob Britt and past CLT Chairs (Bob Felsing, Wooseob Jeong, and Xian Wu) with my highest appreciation and admiration for their exemplary service. Without their hard work, the CEAL Website would not be what it is today, and CEAL would not be the same.

Joy Kim

President, Council on East Asian Libraries