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Institutional and Member News

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INSTITUTIONAL AND MEMBER NEWS

New Korean Studies Librarian at Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library, UCLA
Ms. Esther Mi-Kyung Han joined the Richard C. Rudolph East Asian Library on March 17, 2008, as Korean Studies Librarian. She will be responsible for collection development, cataloging and public services for Korean language materials.

Esther earned her Bachelor’s degree in East Asian Studies and a Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from UCLA. She was most recently employed as a Librarian with the County of Los Angeles Public Library. Prior to that, she was Librarian at the World Mission University in Los Angeles, library intern at the East Los Angeles College Library, and library assistant at the Harvard-Yenching Library.

Esther may be reached by phone at 310 825-0535 or by email at emhan@library.ucla.edu.

(From an Eastlib posting by Amy Ching-Fen Tsiang, UCLA)

Library of Congress Asian Division Personnel Update
DIANA H. CHEN currently serves as Reference Librarian on the China and Mongolia Team in the Asian Division of the Library of Congress. Prior to coming to the Asian Division, she worked as a cataloger for different divisions in the Library, including the Motion Picture and Recorded Sound Division, the Geography and Maps Division, and the Regional Cataloging Division, Chinese Section.

REME A. GREFALDA joined the Library of Congress as Librarian of the new Asian Pacific American Collection. She has an extensive network in the Asian American communities and is the co-editor and co-author of “Towards a Cultural Community: Identity, Education & Stewardship in Filipino American Performing Arts,” a Ford Foundation report; and was the founding editor of Our Own Voice, an online literary/art journal for Filipinos in the Diaspora. She was instrumental in organizing The Carlos Bulosan Symposium for the Asian Division Friends Society at the Library of Congress in 2006, paving the way for a Bulosan Archive housed in the Asian Division.

LILY KECSKES, former Coordinator for the China and Mongolia Team, retired from the Library of Congress in 2007. Lily was a former curator at the Smithsonian’s Freer Gallery Library and worked at the Library of Congress for a number of years.

JUDY LU, Head of Collection Services in the Asian Division, currently serves as Acting Division Chief, following the retirement of the former Chief, Dr. Hwa-Wei Lee. Lu received her BA degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong in Comparative Literature, an MA degree from the University of Hong Kong, and a Master’s in Library Science from the University of Southern California. Prior to coming to LC in 1995, Lu worked as a law librarian and then an administrative librarian at the U.S. Department of Labor Library, a law/legislative reference specialist at the Connecticut State Library, the chief law librarian in a law firm (Seyfarth, Shaw, Fariweather & Geraldson), and the deputy librarian at the U.S. National Labor Relations Board. She completed a yearlong Leadership Development Program at LC in 1996. Lu plays a leadership role in many professional organizations and activities.

MARI NAKAHARA joined the Japan Team in the Asian Division as Reference Librarian after four and a half years as the archivist of the Prints & Drawings Collection at The Octagon, the Museum of the American Architectural Foundation in Washington, DC. She holds a Ph.D. in Architectural History and Design from Tokyo Metropolitan University. She co-curated the exhibition “Crafting a Modern World: The Architecture and Design of Antonin and Noémi Raymond,” funded by the Getty Center Research Center, NEH, and the Pew Charitable Trust. Nakahara is currently enrolled in the Master in Library and Information Science program at the Catholic University of America.

THADDEUS OHTA retired from his position as Reference Librarian on the Japan Team in January 2008. He worked for the Library for 38 years after serving two years of active duty with the U.S. military in Germany. Among other achievements, he published Japanese National Government Publications in the Library of

KYOYO PIPHER, formerly with the LC Serials & Government Publication Division, is a reference specialist on the Japan Team. She is a recipient of the Affirmative Action Scholarship and received her Master’s in Library and Information Science from the Catholic University of America. Pipher was instrumental in adding the cataloging information of the Japanese rare book collection to the LC Online Catalog. Before migrating to the U.S., she worked for 13 years in the Japanese Department of Agriculture. She is an active member of the Asian Division Friends Society and has been very supportive and involved in the planning of the National Conference on Establishing an Asian Pacific American Collection in the Library of Congress.

MING POON, together with Jeffrey Wang, serves as Co-Coordinator for the China and Mongolia Team in the Asian Division, rotating on a six-month basis. He also serves as Reference Librarian for China and the Division’s QuestionPoint Administrator. Poon received degrees and diplomas in Chinese and English, Library Science, Information Studies, and Education. He studied and worked consecutively in Hong Kong, Berkeley, Chicago, Vancouver and Washington, DC. For more than a decade Poon was an esteemed columnist for newspapers in Chinese. His literary biography appears in many encyclopedias, dictionaries, literary histories and anthologies. He has published extensively on classical Chinese fiction, bibliography, print culture, song history, classical and modern Chinese literature, children’s literature, education and copyright law. Before joining the Library of Congress, Ming taught a wide spectrum of courses in three Hong Kong universities.

JEFFREY WANG, together with Ming Poon, serves as Co-Coordinator for the China and Mongolia Team in the Asian Division, rotating on a six-month basis. Wang began his career at the Library of Congress in 1986 as a microfilm project technician in the Chinese Section, Asian Division. In 1989 he became an associate professor at his alma mater, Soochow University in Taipei, Taiwan. During his 15 years at Soochow University, he taught courses in Chinese History, American History, Sino-American Relations, and Western Political Theories. In January 2004, he rejoined the Library of Congress as a reference librarian in the Asian Division.

Ping Situ and Shuyong Jiang receive Samuel Lazerow Fellowship

Ping Situ of the University of Arizona and Shuyong Jiang of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign have been selected to receive the 2008 Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Samuel Lazerow Fellowship for Research in Technical Services or Acquisitions. Situ and Jiang were selected for the award for their research project on vendor-provided records and the experience of a research library in outsourcing cataloging service for its Chinese language materials, including its backlogs. Sponsored by Thomson Scientific, the award fosters advances in collection development and technical services by providing fellowships to librarians for travel or writing in those fields.

The library involved in this project has been outsourcing Chinese and Japanese books to a vendor and has been using Chinese book vendors for acquisitions. This experience will provide a starting point for the project in terms of issues and concerns that need to be addressed. This will also be complemented with a study conducted by one of the recipients in August 2006 on the brief records of the China International Book Trading Company (CIBTC), which calls for more focused research on Chinese book vendor records.

Situ received her M.A. in Library and Information Science from the University of Arizona in 2001, where she also earned a master's degree in Hispanic Linguistics in 2000. She received her M.A in Multiculture and Language Exchange with an emphasis in Hispanic countries, in 1987 from the Foreign Studies University in Beijing, China, where she also earned her bachelor's in Spanish Language and Literature in 1985.

Jiang earned her Ph. D. in Chinese from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2005, where she also received her M.A. in Library and Information Studies in 1996 and her M.A. in Chinese in 1994. She received her M.A. in Chinese from East China Normal University in Shanghai, China in 1984, where she also earned

The award of $1,000 and a plaque will be presented during the American Library Association (ALA) Annual Conference in Anaheim, Calif., at the ACRL President's Program at 1:30 p.m. on Monday, June 30.

(From the ALA press release at http://www.ala.org/ala/pressreleases2008/february2008/lazerow08.cfm)

Jim Cheng Honored
Jim Cheng, Director of the International Relations & Pacific Studies Library and East Asia Collection at the University of California, San Diego Libraries, was selected as a 2008 Library Journal Mover and Shaker Innovator for his work in building and promoting the UC San Diego East Asia film collection. Jim was a major organizer of the recent film festival “Korea, North and South: A Cinematic Perspective” held January 25-27, 2008, at the University of California, San Diego, which was the first North American Korean film festival dedicated to contemporary films of both the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK). The event showcased ROK and DPRK feature films which have never before been shown in North America and included a documentary by Korean-American scholars dealing with Korean immigrants living in the former Soviet Union as well as lectures and panel discussions delivered by distinguished film directors and scholars. The March 2008 issue of the Korea Foundation Newsletter (Vol. 17, No. 3) featured an article by Jim describing the film festival.