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From the President

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From the President

With my second year as President of the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), I want to thank every CEAL colleague for their hard work and perseverance during this pandemic. Although we are still in the midst of uncertainty in the fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic, there is certainly new-found hope that we are turning a corner and will see the light at the end of the tunnel, as we see many institutions in the U.S. and Canada have already reopened their physical doors over the summer and starting from September. I have heard that many of our CEAL colleagues have experienced that the start of a new academic year brought a surge of energy to our library spaces after a long period of library closure or limited library services during this pandemic. I hope more positive changes will emerge from this past year of incredible turmoil.

Since the last CEAL Annual Meeting last March, the Executive Board (EB) and task forces have made significant progress on CEAL initiatives and projects, and in planning for the 2022 Annual Meeting. Here are some highlights:

CEAL Statistics Committee

The committee led by Vickie Fu Doll organized two CEAL Statistics data collection workshops in August this year: a session covering CEAL statistics data collection obtainable from Alma Analytics, and another one dedicated to an information session about CEAL Statistics Online Forms and data interpretation. Both sessions were well attended and received.

CEAL Social Events

In May 2021, the Committee on Japanese Materials (CJM) hosted its CJM Social event, and in August 2021, the CEAL Social Working Group led by Chiaki Sakai, which was formed out of the Executive Board, hosted the first CEAL Social events. Both CJM and CEAL Socials were hosted via the virtual event hosting platform SpatialChat. These gatherings were particularly welcomed and enjoyed by many CEAL colleagues during this prolonged pandemic. They gave us opportunities to connect with newly hired colleagues and reconnect with our old ones.

Task Force on Creating CEAL Sponsorship and Fundraising Guidelines and Best Practices

In order to advance CEAL's mission and strategic goals, serve the best interests of the organization, retain CEAL's independence, and avoid conflicts of interest, in November 2020, [the Task Force on Creating CEAL Sponsorship and Fundraising Guidelines and Best Practices](#) was established to develop clear guidelines for all of CEAL's sponsorship arrangements (both at the CEAL and individual committee/task force levels). The Task Force chaired by Tomoko Bialock has successfully completed its charge and developed clear and thorough documentation and guidelines for CEAL sponsorship and fundraising activities. The EB-approved documentation will be used for the CEAL organization for a trial period of 2 years (July 7, 2021-July 6, 2023), with further adjustments to be made as

needed after that time. The documents and guidelines are available on the CEAL website's [Bylaws and Policies section](#).

Nomination for the 2022 CEAL Distinguished Service Award

Last August, [the Task Force for the 2022 CEAL Distinguished Service Award](#), chaired by Zhijia Shen, made an announcement calling for nominations for [the 2022 CEAL Distinguished Service Award](#). The prestigious CEAL Distinguished Service Award honors a CEAL member (current or former) who has made significant contributions to the field of library service of East Asian libraries/East Asian Studies and to CEAL. In 2020, CEAL recognized our outstanding colleague, Dr. Kristina Troost (Duke University Libraries), with its inaugural edition of this, its highest award. With nominations for the 2022 award now open, I encourage you to nominate CEAL members (current or former), whose service you feel reflects the spirit of the award, and who meet our eligibility criteria.

CEAL–Library of Congress Cataloging Internship Program

In recognition of the shortage of training opportunities for CJK cataloging, in 2006, the CEAL Executive Board made the decision to establish a CEAL–Library of Congress Cataloging Internship Program on a two-year trial basis, in cooperation with the Library of Congress (LC). Encouraged by the number of applications, strong support of our library community, and the successful completion of the internship program, this meaningful partnership with the LC has continued. Due to the pandemic conditions, the 2019 internship was postponed. In the wake of our recent fruitful discussions with the LC, CEAL has signed an addendum extending the internship program agreement for another year so that the 2019 intern can complete the program in Spring 2022. The internship program is ably overseen by the Committee on Technical Processing (CTP) Cataloging Internship Subcommittee (chaired by Keiko Hill).

CEAL Member Spotlight

The Committee on Library Technology (led by Tang Li) has recently proposed the creation of a new section on the CEAL website, “Member Spotlight,” to showcase and promote CEAL members’ activities, accomplishments, publications, etc. This exciting new initiative has been supported by the Executive Board. I encourage CEAL colleagues’ active participation in this program.

Working Group for Review of Cataloging Guidelines for Chinese Rare Books

In order to review and revise *Chinese Rare Book Cataloging Guidelines, 2018 edition* to reflect the paradigm shift in cataloging and metadata practices, the changing needs of users, as well as the ongoing development of technologies, the Working Group for Review of the Cataloging Guidelines for Chinese Rare Books was established in August 2021. This working group, chaired by Haiqing Lin, is under the Committee on Technical Processing (CTP) and will produce a draft of the revised version of the *Chinese Rare Book Cataloging Guidelines, 2018 edition* for CTP stakeholders to review and comment on.

JEAL Current Issue

In our Fall issue, we feature reports on initiatives that were all generated from efforts to make East Asian librarianship or libraries more innovative and forward-thinking: a report on UCI's EAC30 celebration, and an ERMB interim task force report. Also, we are featuring Dr. Kristina Troost's remarks on receiving the inaugural CEAL Distinguished Service Award. I invite you all to read our colleagues' informative and inspiring works.

Lastly, I have recently announced the CEAL 2022 Annual Meeting via our listserv. The CEAL Executive Board and committees/task forces are hard at work, preparing for the program. Please stay tuned for further details about next year's program.

In closing, the hardships and setbacks of the pandemic have shown how capable our CEAL colleagues have been at achieving our goals and supporting each other. I am very proud to be a part of this community.

Hana Kim
Your CEAL President