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Vickie Fu Doll: A Tribute on Her Retirement

Vickie Fu Doll 傅玉波 retired on December 31, 2021, after almost 40 years of dedicated and distinguished service to the University of Kansas (KU) Libraries. She held the position of Librarian for Chinese and Korean Studies in International Collections from 1994 until her retirement. Over the years, she also held library positions in a variety of capacities related to Chinese Studies, Korean Studies, and East Asian Studies, including serving as Co-Chair of International Area Studies (2012-2013).

Vickie grew up in Taipei, Taiwan, and holds a B.A. in Information and Library Science from Tamkang University, Taipei. She also acquired an M.A. in Special Studies on Computer-Aided Design with a minor in East Asian Studies from KU.

Vickie was active in many regional and national organizations, serving in leadership positions on the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), the Society of Chinese Studies Librarians, OCLC-CJK Users Group, and the Chinese American Librarians Association, Midwest Chapter. She served as the Chair of the CEAL Statistics Committee since 1999 and was an elected Board member between 2001 and 2004, while also serving as a steady member of the Committee on Chinese Materials from 2001 to 2005, and 2008 to 2014. In 2015, she served as president of the Alpha Pi Chapter. Phi Beta Delta Honor Society for International Scholars. Furthermore, she founded the East Asian Studies Special Interest Group of Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) in the early 2000s.

Several of her outstanding projects stand out. Among them, the creation of the CEAL Statistics Database is a notable example of her advancement and promotion of East Asian libraries and collections. She advocated for the automation of CEAL statistics data collection and information dissemination via an online system since the mid-1990s. In 1999, as chair of CEAL Statistics Task Force, she led the group on the design and, in 2000, creation of the CEAL Statistics database https://ceal.ku.edu.

Through her ingenuity, tireless work, and leadership, CEAL has become the first area studies libraries organization in North America that offers an established statistical database with sustainable and growing data. One colleague wrote that “... it’s become powerfully apparent how fortunate East Asia librarians are to have such a sophisticated and robustly maintained statistics program. I also feel that those annual statistical reports reflect a sense of community and shared purpose in East Asian librarianship and am very grateful to Vickie for her leadership in our community.”

A regular contributor to the Journal of East Asian Libraries, Vickie has compiled and published, since 2000, the annually updated “Council on East Asian Libraries Statistics” and has written in-depth articles related to analysis, access, search, and use of the Database. She also wrote, in Chinese and English, the history of the East Asian Collection at the KU Libraries, which was included in Collecting Asia, East Asian Libraries in North America, 1868-2008 (2010). Her publication on Chinese rare books in KU, 美國堪薩斯大學東亞圖書館

1 Brian Vivier, Email to the eastlib mailing list, December 26, 2021.
Vickie has been a constant presenter at the CEAL annual conferences. She has given talks on the impact of the internet on reference services, database designs, and recent cost studies. In her presentations, she highlighted the emerging trends of library development and the need to re-think ways to approach the daily workflow of East Asian materials. In her long career, she has mentored students, junior colleagues, and emerging scholars generously and tirelessly through reference consultations and library sessions in various formats. She established and hosted the annual East Asian Studies Research Forum for KU faculty and later for graduate students for more than a decade. One of her colleagues remembered advice Vickie gave her, “think big,” to break the barrier and reach further.

Vickie’s many significant accomplishments to the field of librarianship had won her the respect and recognition of her peers. In 2009, she received the Faculty Service Award from the Center for East Asian Studies. In 2011, Vickie was saluted by Joy Kim, CEAL President 2010-2012, for her professional contributions to the promotion of East Asian libraries and collections through the creation of the online CEAL Statistics. In 2014, she achieved full librarian status, and in 2015, in recognition of her outstanding service to KU Libraries, Vickie received the Gretchen and Gene A. Budig Distinguished Librarian Award.

As we thank Vickie for her outstanding achievements and splendid career and though we will miss her presence among us dearly, we know for sure that she is spending more time with her family and enjoying a fulfilling and happy new chapter of her life.

Submitted by Wen-ling Liu

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2 Jon Giullian, cited in email to eastlib mailing list, December 13, 2021.

3 Michiko Ito, Email to the eastlib mailing list, December 13, 2021.