New Appointments
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Sachie Shishido

I’m thrilled to announce that Sachie Shishido has taken the job of Cataloger for Japanese Resources at Harvard Library, Harvard University. Sachie started on April 25, 2022, and will be located at Harvard-Yenching Library. Her preferred pronouns are she/her/hers.

Sachie comes to us from the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies, Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University, where she was the Japan Digital Project Manager. In this position, she gained an in-depth knowledge of cataloging digital collections for Japanese language materials. She also served as the Reference Librarian at Massachusetts Eye and Ear, Harvard Medical School, where she worked extensively with metadata, as well as with patrons. Previously she served as the Librarian at the Art Institute of Portland, where she did a variety of jobs including working with serials, cataloging, reference work, promoting the library, and consulting with faculty. She has also worked as an archivist in Japan. She has an MLIS from Kent State University.

She has a wonderful blend of metadata experience, along with experience consulting with patrons. She has remarked how this has helped her realize how metadata makes our collections accessible to our users. We are very happy to have her at Harvard!

If you have any questions or comments about metadata for Japanese resources at Harvard, please contact Sachie (ssshishido@fas.harvard.edu). As she is new to her position, she will confer with her supervisor, Isabel Quintana, for now. You can also feel free to contact Isabel (quintana@fas.harvard.edu) directly.

I hope you will join me in welcoming Sachie to our community of Japanese librarians.

Submitted by Kuniko Yamada McVey on behalf of Isabel Quintana

Jidong Yang

I am very pleased to announce that Dr. Jidong Yang has been appointed to the position of Librarian of Harvard-Yenching Library, which he will assume officially on August 1, 2022. Jidong brings an exceptional blend of experience, knowledge, and abilities to this role, as well as a strong track record of professional leadership on the local, national, and international levels.

Jidong Yang is currently serving as the Head of the East Asia Library at Stanford University. His position has enabled him to work with a large and technologically advanced staff, providing direct experience in the realm of digital scholarship. He has led the move to a new library space, developed new outreach programs, and engaged deeply with collections. Before joining Stanford, Jidong worked at the University of Pennsylvania Libraries as Chinese Studies Librarian, and the University of Michigan as Head, Asia Library.

Jidong has published in the history of East Asian libraries, pre-modern Chinese history and literature, history of Buddhism, and the archaeology and history of the Silk Road. He is the editor of Beyond the Book: Unique and Rare Primary Sources for East Asian Studies Collected in North America, which will soon be published by the Association for Asian Studies. Jidong brings a natural curiosity, depth of thinking, collaborative instinct, and commitment
to equity, diversity, and inclusion that bode well for his success as the Librarian of Harvard-Yenching Library.

Jidong Yang received a bachelor’s degree in History from Peking University, a doctoral degree in East Asian Studies from the University of Pennsylvania, and a master’s degree in Library and Information Sciences from Rutgers University. In addition to Chinese and English, he has a good command of Russian and Japanese, reading knowledge of French, and basic knowledge of Korean, Tibetan, and Mongolian.

Harvard-Yenching Library is the preeminent academic research library focusing on East Asia in the western world and the third largest repository in the Harvard Library system. Librarians of the Harvard-Yenching Library have built unparalleled collections and developed strong ties with scholarly communities and institutions across East Asia, ties that have supported and enabled Harvard’s strength in Asian scholarship.

This appointment is the result of a thorough search process that identified a strong pool of candidates and finalists. I would like to thank the members of the Search Advisory Committee for their knowledge, commitment, astute observations, and critical engagement throughout the process: Michael Hopper, Sun Joo Kim, Elizabeth Kirk, Hisa Kuriyama, Lee LaFleur, James Robson, Shalimar White, and especially Marybeth Godwin, our senior talent acquisition and human resources specialist. Many thanks to Martha Whitehead, Vice-President for the Harvard Library, University Librarian and Roy E. Larsen Librarian for the Faculty of Arts and Sciences for leading the final steps of this process. Additional thanks to Gloria Cadder and Anna Dunavin who made the logistics of the search process run smoothly. Finally, I would like to thank and recognize everyone who participated in the interviews, particularly the staff of the Harvard-Yenching Library, whose engagement and feedback were critical at all steps of the search process.

Submitted by Ardy Kozbial

Cecilia Liuyi Zhang

On behalf of the University of Kansas Libraries, I am happy to introduce our new Chinese Studies librarian, Cecilia Liuyi Zhang.

Cecilia is from Scarborough, Ontario, Canada. She did her undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada and brings expertise in East Asian Studies and Art History. Cecilia is fluent in Chinese, English, and has a working knowledge of Japanese. She previously worked at the Ontario College Art & Design University Library as a Reference Librarian and before that as an Image services cataloger at the University of Toronto.

Cecilia starts today, Aug. 15. Her e-mail address is: ceciliazh@ku.edu

Not many people are using phones, but in case, you can reach her through this phone number: 785-864-6461

We are very happy to have her here at KU! Please join me to welcome her!

Submitted by Michiko Ito
Elizabeth Carroll

I am very pleased to announce that we have a new archivist joining us at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library of the University of Toronto. Elizabeth Carroll will begin her role at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library as Japanese Canadian Collections Archivist on August 15, 2022, for a one-year term assignment. We are very excited to have her join the EAL team.

Elizabeth is an archivist from Toronto. After graduating from the University of Toronto with a Master of Information in 2017, she has worn many information professional hats including Media Librarian at the CBC, Archival Technician for York Region, and most recently Media Researcher and Archivist at TVO. She has also worked at the U of T Media Commons Archives and is excited to come back to UTL as an Archivist for the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. As a Japanese Canadian Collections Archivist, Elizabeth will be working on organizing and providing access to our growing collection of Japanese Canadian archival materials. This position has been made possible thanks to several very generous donations and grants.

Elizabeth can be reached by email at elizabeth.carroll@utoronto.ca or by phone at 416-978-7691.

Submitted by Hana Kim

Yiyun “Evian” Pan


Evian holds both an M.S. in Library and Information Science (with an Archives focus) and an M.A. in History of Art and Design from Pratt Institute, as well as a B.A. in Anthropology from Skidmore College. She worked as an archival intern at a string of museums, galleries, and other institutions and businesses. Most recently she worked as Archives & Digital Asset Management Assistant at Bjarke Ingels Group NYC. Evian will be responsible for the processing of our growing backlog in Chinese and China-related archives.

We are delighted to have Evian on our team to improve scholarly access to our unique archival collections. She can be reached through email at yp2667@columbia.edu.

Submitted by Jim Cheng

Kristina Dy-Liacco

Kristina Dy-Liacco started as the new Tibetan Studies Librarian in the C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University Libraries on August 1, 2022, and can be reached through Email: kd2881@columbia.edu.

Kristina comes to us with 20 years of experience in librarianship related to Tibetan Studies, combined with her educational background in both library science (MLS from the University of Wisconsin-Madison) and Tibetan Studies (MA from Indiana University). She is responsible for Tibetan collection development and cataloging and reference services at
Columbia and managing the partnership program in Tibetan Studies at the University of Toronto.

We are thrilled to have Kristina on board to lead our outstanding Tibetan Collection and services, please join me in welcoming her.

Submitted by Jim Cheng