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Committee Activities

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COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES


As Chairperson of CEAL, I have the honor of submitting my annual report for 1978-1979. Annual reports by Chairpersons of CEAL Subcommittees are appended. During the year under review CEAL's principal activities included:

1) Liaison with the American Library Association. Ms. Effie Chen, Mr. Thomas Lee, Mr. John Y. H. Lai, and Mr. Hideo Kaneko continued to represent CEAL on several ALA committees. Ms. Chen and Messrs. Lee and Lai attended meetings of the ALA RTSD CCS Ad Hoc Subcommittees on Descriptive and Subject Analysis of Asian and African Materials at the 1978 ALA-Annual Meeting in Chicago. Mr. Kaneko was also in attendance as a member of the ALA Advisory Committee on Liaison with Japanese Libraries and as a member of the Executive Committee of the ALA ACRP Asian and African Section. Messrs. Lee and Lai's attendance was supported by the travel grant made to CEAL in 1977-78 by the ACLS. Because of the importance of the work that has been carried on by the two Ad Hoc Subcommittees, the Cataloging and Classification Section (CCS) of the Resources and Technical Services Division (RTSD) of the ALA voted at the ALA Mid-Winter Meeting in Washington in January, 1979, to combine the two Ad Hoc Subcommittees into a standing committee of the CCS under the new name Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials. Mr. Thomas Lee has been invited to serve as a founding member of the new committee.

2) Liaison with the Library of Congress. As in the past, close liaison with the Library of Congress was maintained in 1978-79. In addition to communications between the CEAL Subcommittee on Technical Processing and the Library of Congress, CEAL discussed LC's plan for complete romanization of its bibliographic records for non-roman scripts with Mr. Joseph H. Howard, Assistant Librarian for Processing Services at LC. LC also accepted CEAL's invitation to appoint two members of its East Asian cataloging staff to join the CEAL Subcommittee on Technical Processing. There were also discussions regarding the Chinese Cooperative Catalog published by the Library of Congress and the possibility of LC making available information concerning its special acquisitions from the People's Republic of China. Contact was maintained with the Deputy Librarian of the Library of Congress on the LC-organized American librarians delegation to visit the PRC (the latest information indicates that the visit will most likely take place in the fall of 1979 with T. H. Tsien, P. K. Yu, and Eugene Wu representing CEAL on the delegation).

3) Statement on Library Needs in East Asian Studies. In January, 1979, CEAL submitted to Professor Richard L. Park, President of the Association for Asian Studies, a statement on "The Role of the Library in East Asian Studies" (infra, p.50). Professor Park is now soliciting similar statements from other library groups in the AAS for a presentation on library needs in Asian studies to the President's Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies.

4) The Joint Advisory Committee to the East Asian Library Program. Two members of CEAL, Hideo Kaneko and Eugene Wu, were appointed in the fall of 1978.
to this newly organized Joint Advisory Committee sponsored by ACLS, SSRC, and ARL (CEAL Bulletin, No. 57, p. 11). This committee has been conducting a careful review of the recommendations made by the former ACLS Steering Committee for a Study of the Problems of East Asian Libraries, whose report was released by the Ford Foundation in January, 1978. Special attention has so far been paid to the problem of automation, especially in the area of bibliographical control, the strengthening of working relationships with the Library of Congress, and the interfacing of East Asian library projects with ongoing and planned national library systems.

5) **CEAL Bulletin.** Under the continuing and able leadership of its editor, Richard C. Howard, and the conscientious and splendid support of other members of the CEAL Subcommittee on Publications, the CEAL Bulletin appeared three times this past year, as scheduled. For 1978-79 there was a total of 182 paid subscriptions (107 individual and 75 institutional), a gain of 8 over a year ago. The publication of the CEAL Bulletin has been an entirely voluntary and collective effort which has served a most useful purpose to the field. It is clear that this effort must be maintained in the future. However, in order to insure the long-term health of this publication, especially when future funding can no longer be expected from the AAS Board of Directors and its two Asian Councils, we must actively solicit additional subscriptions to place the publication of the Bulletin on a self-supporting basis.

6) **East Asian Library Directory.** The 1978 Directory of East Asian Collections in North American Libraries was issued in the spring of last year. The 1979 edition is in press and will be distributed free of charge as usual to libraries listed in the Directory and to subscribers of the CEAL Bulletin. Additional copies will be available at $3.00 each from CEAL.

II. **Reports of CEAL Subcommittees.**

**Subcommittee on Resources and Development**

The Subcommittee on Resources and Development was organized in 1974 primarily for planning a national program for future development of East Asian libraries. During the past years, a survey of the current status of East Asian libraries was conducted and published in 1976 and a national platform was proposed on resources development, bibliographic control, access, and training, which resulted in the formation of the ACLS Steering Committee for a Study of the Problems of East Asian Libraries and now the East Asian Library Program with the support of the Ford Foundation.

During the past year, a pilot project for cost verification of the National Union Catalog of East Asian Monographs was initiated; a cooperative acquisitions program at the Center for Research Libraries was under study; surveys of Japanese library materials were funded; a number of general, special, and subject bibliographies were published; and a new series entitled "Studies in East Asian Librarianship" was planned and will soon be published by the Chinese Materials Center, Inc., San Francisco. A more extensive study and research program, including a bibliographical series, a new survey for 1980,
and the Handbook of East Asian Libraries, is being planned. It is hoped that a proposal for supporting these projects will be developed during the coming year.

(Tsuen-hsuin Tsien, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Technical Processing

The Subcommittee on Technical Processing (CEAL/STP) acquired a new status in March, 1978, when the CEAL Executive Committee approved making it a standing subcommittee of CEAL in view of its growing importance as a representative of CEAL in the technical processing area at national professional meetings and on the committees of the American Library Association.

In the first half of 1978-79, CEAL/STP continued its work on identifying problem areas in East Asian cataloging for the ALA RTSD CCS Ad Hoc Subcommittees on Descriptive Cataloging and Subject Analysis of Asian and African Materials. Its two years of work on this project culminated in June, 1978, with two extensive final reports. The reports, submitted to the two Ad Hoc ALA Subcommittees at the 1978 ALA Conference were later transmitted to the Library of Congress for its consideration. LC's response (to the descriptive cataloging problems) came in January, 1979, and is now being studied by CEAL/STP.

At the 1978 ALA Conference, CEAL/STP representatives on the ALA Ad Hoc Subcommittees joined the other representatives in an effort to create a permanent committee under the ALA RTSD Cataloging and Classification Section (CCS) in order to continue the work of the two Ad Hoc subcommittees. The CCS Executive Committee approved the formation of such a committee at the 1978 Conference and reconformed this decision at its meeting at the 1979 ALA Midwinter Conference. The new standing committee is expected to start to function in June, 1979. The CEAL/STP Chairperson has been invited to serve on this committee as a founding member for the term 1979-81. (see p.42 of this issue of the Bulletin)

During the months of December, 1978, and January, 1979, CEAL/STP conducted a survey among East Asian libraries on the advisability of romanization only for East Asian cataloging records. 49 of the 58 institutions responded promptly with an overwhelming vote for the retention of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean scripts on cataloging records for clear and unmistakable identification of names, titles, and meanings; the respondents also urged full exploration by the Library of Congress of means of automating East Asian scripts. If such means are not immediately available, a dual record system (i.e., producing one romanized record for machine input and another record in the original script for users' consultation) should be maintained as an interim solution. (For a full report of the survey, see "What's New in Technical Processing" in this issue of the CEAL Bulletin.)

(Thomas H. Lee, Chairperson)
Subcommittee on National Union Catalog

The Subcommittee on National Union Catalog was reorganized in 1978, and consists of the following members: Edwin G. Beal, Jr., Gloria Hsia (LC), Jack Jacoby (Columbia), Thomas Kuo (Pittsburgh), Karl Lo (Washington), and John Y. H. Lai (Harvard-Chairperson).

Karl Lo prepared a proposal for a National Union Catalog of East Asian Monographs in North America; a pilot project, concentrating on the evaluation of the data input cost and related procedures, is underway at the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago. Thomas Kuo prepared a proposal for a Union List of East Asian Serials, a project patterned after the Union List of Oriental Vernacular Serials compiled some years ago by the Library of Congress. Jack Jacoby prepared a working paper entitled "Considerations Toward a National Union Catalog of East Asian Materials in Microform," which presents a preliminary draft of guidelines recommended for East Asian libraries in organizing their microform collections into a consistent system. Both Thomas Kuo's proposal and Jack Jacoby's working paper have been forwarded, through the CEAL Chairperson to the Joint Advisory Committee for the East Asian Library Program for its consideration.

The Subcommittee is an advisory body to all union catalog projects, and hopes to work closely with all such projects, when and if implemented, on matters concerning decisions and procedures. At present, the Subcommittee awaits the findings of the CRL pilot project on the National Union Catalog of East Asian Monographs.

(John Yung-hsiang Lai, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Automation

The Subcommittee on Automation was appointed by CEAL in April, 1978, to "keep the field informed on the general state of the art, to identify special problems facing East Asian libraries, and to recommend projects which might eventually lead to satisfactory solutions to these unique problems." The Subcommittee consists of Nelson Chou (Rutgers), Henry Hsing (Toronto), Warren Tsuneishi (LC), and Karl Lo (Washington, Seattle-Chairperson).

The members exchanged letters in the latter part of 1978, and tentatively agreed to focus their work, within the charges, on (1) East Asian libraries within an automated library system and (2) Chinese character processing. These two points will be presented at the March 28, 1979, meeting of the CEAL Executive Group for approval and discussion.

In December, Eugene Wu, in his capacity as CEAL Chairperson, formally responded to the Library of Congress' invitation to comment on the Library's romanization plan. His editorial statement was published in Number 57 of the CEAL Bulletin. Two members of the Subcommittee, Henry Hsing and Karl Lo, also made individual responses. Due to the lack of an opportunity to discuss the issue among members, the Subcommittee did not make a formal response.
In order to further discussion on East Asian Library automation at the 1979 CEAL Annual Meeting, Karl Lo has prepared a brief article for publication in the CEAL Bulletin.

It is hoped that the Subcommittee, following the 1979 CEAL Annual Meeting, will be able to identify specific automation needs in East Asian libraries and proceed to search for appropriate solutions.

(Karl Lo, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Chinese Materials

At the 1978 AAS annual meeting, the Subcommittee met in Chicago with all members and the CEAL Chairperson present. The topics discussed included a coordinated effort for the disposal of duplicates, the reproduction of Chinese university journals and other periodicals which had been available only through sporadic commercial efforts in Hong Kong, the collection development policies of East Asian libraries concerning Chinese materials on science and technology, and the exchange of publications with Chinese libraries and research institutions. At this reporting the recent developments in the PRC have rendered much of the consideration on the latter two areas out-of-date. Reassessments of the current situation are in order. There has been little progress made on the coordinated disposal of duplicates as an interested book dealer with the capacity to serve many libraries on a comprehensive scale has not been identified. The proposal for coordinated reproduction of those university journals and provincial periodicals was later discussed with the Director of the ARL Center for Chinese Research Materials. The Center had also been planning to reproduce these materials and has responded to the sense of priority expressed by the Subcommittee. A number of these titles have already been offered by the Center in its Newsletter No. 26 (November, 1978).

In view of the recent developments, the Subcommittee plans to hold an open no-agendum meeting at the coming AAS annual meeting. Time and place will be announced in Los Angeles.

(Weiying Wan, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Japanese Materials

Twenty-five librarians who are directly involved in collection development for Japanese materials in the U.S. participated in the Workshop for Japanese Collection Librarians, Washington, D.C., August 28-30, 1978. The workshop was conducted by the Association of Research Libraries/Office of Management Studies in consultation with an organizing committee, which was largely made up of members of this subcommittee. The Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission provided funding for the conference (see CEAL Bulletin, No. 57, p. 1). The papers presented along with summaries of reaction have just been published as the Workshop of Japanese Collection Librarians in American Research Libraries (available from ARL Office of Management Studies at $12.50 a copy).
Two subcommittee members have initiated projects of their own which follow up on some of the issues discussed at the workshop. With a grant from the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, Miss Naomi Fukuda began an in-depth survey of Japanese collections in the U.S., while Dr. Shizue Matsuda of Indiana University Library is now planning a project to compile a union list of Japanese serial titles currently received by American libraries. These will be on the agenda for discussion when the subcommittee holds an open meeting at the time of the AAS annual meeting.

(Hideo Kaneko, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Korean Materials

The major activity of the Subcommittee during the past year was the preparation of a proposal for the compilation of a directory of Korean studies in America. This project has been prompted by the growing number of Korean organizations in this country and the Korean language publications issued by these organizations. Because of the diversity in the aims, interests, and expressed opinions—a result of the political and ideological division of Korea itself—the proposed directory, as a reference guide to Korean ethnic, cultural, economic, and social activities and to Korea-related museums, libraries, and archives in the United States is seen as an important reference tool for librarians working with Korean collections both in this country and abroad.

(Key P. Yang, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Publications

As in past years, the Subcommittee has directed its efforts primarily to the compilation, editing, printing, and distribution of the CEAL Bulletin, three issues of which, numbers 56, 57, and 58, have been published during the past year. In addition to its regular coverage of professional activities and new developments in the East Asian library field, these numbers of the Bulletin have featured articles and special reports dealing not only with such timely topics as automation and legal resources in the PRC, but also with such national issues as resource sharing among Japanese collections. Other articles have brought to the attention of our readers a number of archives and collections of special significance to research on East Asia.

Beginning with number 56, the publication schedule of the Bulletin was advanced one month, so that numbers formerly issued in March, July, and November of each year were rescheduled to appear in February, June, and October. The change was made to insure that the number preceding the annual March meeting of CEAL would be in the hands of subscribers well before the meeting. Although some difficulties have been encountered in adjusting to the new schedule, it is expected that future issues will appear in a timely manner.

The functional division of the Subcommittee's activities among its various members, as established three years ago, continue as a viable method of operation. Although two charter members of the Subcommittee, Miwa Kai of Columbia University...
and Thomas Kuo of the University of Pittsburgh, have resigned during the past year due to the pressures of other business, their highly valued contributions in assembling materials on Japan and China respectively are now being effectively performed by Eugene Carvalho of the University of Kansas and William S. Wong of the University of Illinois. The arduous labor of manuscript preparation continues to be carried out by the staff of the Harvard-Yenching Library, ably directed by our CEAL Chairperson, Eugene Wu. Their efforts, and the admirable accomplishment of the staff of the ARL Center for Chinese Research Materials, headed by P. K. Yu, in printing and distributing the Bulletin, are deserving of our special thanks and appreciation.

(Richard C. Howard, Chairperson)

Subcommittee on Liaison with Chinese Libraries.

Subsequent to the normalization of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the P.R.C., the Deputy Librarian of Congress, William J. Welsh, asked the Liaison Office of the People's Republic of China in Washington when China would be able to receive the U.S. delegation of librarians. Mr. Welsh recently learned that the P.R.C. is prepared to receive the delegation in September, 1979. As reported last year, the delegation consists of twelve members. Three of these twelve will represent the Library of Congress, and the remaining nine will represent ALA, ARL, and CEAL of AAS, each of these groups having been allotted three nominees. Mr. Welsh also learned that the Bureau of Cultural Relics will be the Chinese organization receiving the delegation.

(Tao-tai Hsia, Chairperson)