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National Coordinating Committee on Japanese Library Resources Meeting

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NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ON JAPANESE LIBRARY RESOURCES MEETING

January 10-11, 1997
Berkeley, California

Attendees:
All NCC members were present
Karen Brazell, Cornell University
Dorothy Gregor, NCC Director
Amy Vladeck Heinrich, Columbia University
Glenn Hoetker, Consultant, Ann Arbor, MI
Karl Kahler, University of Pennsylvania, Chair
Takayasu Miyakawa, Fellow, Mitsubishi Research Institute
Ichiko T. Morita, Library of Congress
Sachie Noguchi, University of Pittsburgh
Hisami Konishi Springer, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Patricia G. Steinhoff, University of Hawaii at Manoa
Mariko Tamanoi, UCLA
Kristina Kade Troost, Duke University

Guests
Eric Gangloff, Japan-United States Friendship Commission
Maki Uchiyama, Japan Foundation, New York
Isao Tsujimoto, Japan Foundation, Los Angeles
Eiichi Ito, Japan Foundation, Los Angeles
Hitoshi Inoue, National Center for Science Information Systems, Japan

Summary of major topics discussed

JS-Net Study Group
Takayasu Miyakawa reported that the Study Group continues work on developing a homepage which could serve as a clearinghouse for information of interest to Japanese Studies scholars in the social sciences and humanities. The Study Group is planning a brief survey of specialized institutions and organizations which are likely sources for links to the JS-Net homepage. The pilot phase of the clearinghouse homepage will be available in April-June, 1997. Study Group members represent the International House of Japan, the Japan Center for International Exchange, the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Tokyo, Mitsubishi Research Institute, the Japan Association for Cultural Exchange, and the Japan Foundation.

Japanese Art Catalog Project (JAC Project)
The Art Catalog Library opened to the public on November 14, 1996. It is the first special library in Japan to collect catalogs of art exhibitions held in museums and other institutions or organizations in Japan. The Japanese Association for Cultural Exchange (ACE Japan) has provided administrative and financial support. Grants from four private foundations or firms
provided substantial funding to establish and maintain the library. Masaharu Taneichi and an assistant are librarians at the library.

The first shipment of 1,100 volumes to the U.S. depository, the Freer Gallery of Art, was made in July, 1996, and the second one, approximately 500-600 volumes, is scheduled for the end of March, 1997. In addition, the Art Catalog Library received from Freer 17 U.S. catalogs and an art journal, the first U.S. effort in bilateral exchange.

Art Catalog Project in the U.S. (JAC II)
NCC members discussed how to organize a reciprocal project in the U.S. in order to collect catalogs of U.S. exhibits of Japanese art for deposit at the Freer Gallery and the ACE Japan Art Catalog Library in Tokyo. Dorothy Gregor will write to pertinent organizations asking them to send catalogs to the depository libraries.

Japan Foundation Senior Librarian Training Program
The Japan Foundation is funding a training program for overseas Japanese Studies librarians, with the cooperation of the National Diet Library, NACSIS, and the International House of Japan. In addition to librarians from Europe, Australia, and Brazil, two librarians from the U.S., Robert Britt (University of Washington Law) and Yasuko Makino (Columbia University) will attend the training for three weeks beginning February 16, 1997.

NCC Grant Proposal to the Center for Global Partnership for Librarian Training
NCC has submitted to CGP a grant application to support the training of five Japanese Studies librarians at NACSIS with follow-up workshops for librarians and end users in the U.S. The CGP will announce its grant decision in April, 1997.

Future CEAL Librarian Training Plans
Sachie Noguchi reported that CEAL will explore ways to supplement the JF program which is limited to two U.S. librarians and includes no Canadians.

Japan Foundation
Maki Uchiyama of the New York Office reported the receipt of 55 applications to the Library Support Program. The JF may need to cut back on the number of future awards because of budgetary difficulties.

Isao Tsujimoto introduced Eiichi Ito, new librarian at the "Nihongo Library" in Los Angeles. The library primarily has materials for the teaching of Japanese, but it plans to reach a broader audience. It provides circulation by mail and houses 10,000 monographs and 300-400 journal titles.
Japan Foundation Advisory Subcommittee
Hisami Springer reported that the subcommittee had met and faxed its recommendations for library support awards to the Japan Foundation.

Multi-volume Set (MVS) Subcommittee
Mariko Tamanoi reported that the MVS Subcommittee is attempting to review and score applications by electronic means without a face-to-face meeting. The system was developed by the MVS CO-CHAIR, Hideyuki Morimoto. Twelve institutions have requested 59 titles totaling ¥42,379,494, but only ¥1,238,433 is available, and therefore selection is difficult.

East Asian Library Cooperative WWW Project
Kristina Troost updated NCC on the contents available on the cooperative web site: UCB (Japanese records from the East Asian Library catalog, kuchie images, and NCC's Multi-volume Set information), OSU (company histories, Japanese film materials from the Kinema Club, many links to other sites with East Asia information), MIT (materials on Japanese teaching) and Duke (bibliographies, accessing resources not held in your library).

Recon Survey Report and Project Development
Dorothy Gregor distributed a summary of some of the recon survey data collected this past year. A report will be available on the East Asian Library Cooperative WWW. NCC will explore new ways of carrying out and funding for future coordinated recon projects.

Dorothy Gregor, coordinator of the project, summarized the elements of a comprehensive effort to improve U.S. access to Japanese journal articles. The NCC Serials Subcommittee has developed a draft workplan for AAU/ARL. The project intends to improve access to Japanese journals available both in North America and in Japan.

AAS Booth
NCC will participate in the information booth being coordinated by Maureen Donovan (OSU).

Japan-United States Friendship Report
Eric Gangloff reported on continuing budgetary difficulties because of low interest dividends from yen funds. The FY 1998 President's budget will propose that the Commission be privatized; that is, that a new non-profit corporation be formed to carry on the work of the Commission. The outcome of the proposal is unknown, and the Commission may continue as it now constituted, or it could be discontinued, depending on the wishes of Congress.

National Center for Science Information Systems, Japan, Report
Hitoshi Inoue, Deputy Director General, distributed useful packets of information about NACSIS projects. He indicated that
he had talked with the CGP about the NCC proposal for NACSIS training of U.S. librarians. He pointed out that the Tokyo staff of the Japan Documentation Center will participate in the upcoming Japan Foundation-sponsored training program.

(Karl Kahler, University of Pennsylvania)