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Institutional and Member News

Harvard University Library Notes

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INSTITUTIONAL AND MEMBER NEWS

Harvard-Yenching Library: The Harvard-Yenching Library is pleased to announce the appointment in May, 1997 of James K. Lin as Assistant Librarian for Cataloging Services. Mr. Lin comes from the Library of Congress, where he served as the Team Leader of Japanese Cataloging Team One. Earlier he was a Senior Subject Cataloger in the Asian Materials Section, Subject Cataloging Division of the Library of Congress. In that position he was responsible for the maintenance and development of LC subject headings and LC classification related to Chinese materials.

In 1991 he was sent by LC to India to train local catalogers at LC’s New Delhi Field Office in the subject cataloging of South Asian materials in language and literature. Since then he has performed a variety of training and cataloging duties. He is the co-author, with Prof. Lois Mai Chan, University of Kentucky, of Library of Congress Subject Headings: Principles and Applications (in Chinese) published in Taipei in 1989, which has since been adopted as a standard text on the subject in library schools in Taiwan.

Mr. Lin received his B.A. in Chinese language and literature from the National Chengchi University in Taiwan, and his M.A. and Ph.D., also in Chinese language and literature with a minor in theoretical and applied linguistics, from Georgetown University. He also has an M.L.S. from Atlanta University, and an M.A. in Management and Supervision from Central Michigan University.

“We are fortunate that James Lin has decided to join us,” said Eugene W. Wu, Librarian of Harvard-Yenching Library. “His academic and professional training and his years of technical and management experience at the Library of Congress will contribute greatly to our cataloging program as the Library moves forward in an increasingly automated environment.”

(From the Harvard University Library Notes)

Southern California Library Consortium Receives 1997 Japan Foundation Grant

With great pleasure the Southern California Library Consortium announces the joint receipt of a 1997 Japan Foundation grant of Y3,000,000 by the two cooperating libraries, UCLA and UCSD. The grant, the third in a row of its kind, was awarded for the purpose of developing the two institutions’ collaborative Japanese acquisition programs and implementing regional Japanese resource-sharing in Southern California and the Western United States.

Following the “contract,” which divides collection responsibilities between the two libraries, UCLA will procure six multi-volume series on Buddhism, and UCSD will acquire two large sets of newspaper back-issues dealing with industry/economy and government documents on banking/finance. Few, if any, libraries in North America own these sets intact, making them
regionally and nationally unique. These resources will be cataloged into the national Online Computer Library Center Chinese-Japanese-Korean (OCLC-CJK) database and will be made available through free interlibrary loan to other institutions.

Letters of recommendation from our two neighboring university libraries, the University of Southern California and the San Diego State University, made a difference in receiving this competitive award. This year, our consortium is among several university libraries to receive the Foundation's grant under its Library Support Program B. We are grateful to our neighbors for their continued support. Our thanks go to the Japan Foundation for its generous assistance in the coordinated acquisition projects and expanded research services of the Southern California Library Consortium, now in its eighth year.

(Eiji Yutani, University of California, San Diego)

Kristina Troost wins 1997 Florence Blakely Award: Dr. Kristina Troost, East Asian Librarian at Duke University, was awarded the 1997 Florence Blakely Award. This award is given each year to an individual at the Duke University library whose “extraordinary performance . . . far exceeds goals, affects the greatest numbers of people, innovates, benefits the internal and external users and/or represents significant savings in time and money.” The nomination praised Dr. Troost for transforming the East Asian collection at Duke from a neglected step-child to being one of the fastest growing parts of the Duke library system and a major resource in the Southeast U.S. As the incoming Chair of the National Coordinating Committee on Japanese Library Resources, Dr. Troost will continue her work toward improving the quality of national resources in Japanese studies.

(Summarized from Duke University press releases)

Rebuilding Chinese libraries after World War II: The Spring 1997 issue of Libraries & Culture includes the article “From the People of the United States of America: The Books for China Programs during World War II” (Vol. 32, No.2:191-226). Co-authored by Yuan Zhou (East Asian Librarian, University of Minnesota) and Calvin Elliker, the article documents several special programs undertaken by the American Library Association, the Library of Congress, the Smithsonian Institution, the State Department, and the Rockefeller Foundation during World War II. These programs aimed to help rebuild Chinese library collections that were lost or severely damaged during the War by supplying the libraries with books, periodicals, and other materials during and immediately after the War. Using historical documents from the ALA Archives at the University of Illinois and other published and unpublished material, the article also delineates the condition of libraries in China before the War, wartime destruction of books and libraries, and the heroic efforts of Chinese librarians to rebuild collections and maintain library services through eight years of war.