Doctoral Dissertations Concerned With Library and Information Science, Publishing and Books: An Annotated Bibliography of Studies Relating to East Asia Completed Between 1999 and 2004

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DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS CONCERNED WITH LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE, PUBLISHING AND BOOKS: AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY OF STUDIES RELATING TO EAST ASIA COMPLETED BETWEEN 1999 AND 2004

Compiled and Edited by Frank Joseph Shulman

Doctoral dissertations are a significant scholarly resource in most academic disciplines. Normally constituting the highest level of graduate student scholarship at institutions of higher education, they embody the results of years of study and research, advance the frontiers of knowledge, and frequently contain exhaustive bibliographies of value to librarians and scholars alike. Furthermore, the receipt of the doctoral degree is a major accomplishment in any individual's scholarly career, and the subject of one's dissertation is often directly related to his or her subsequent research and publication activity.

This annotated bibliography highlights twenty-two doctoral dissertations completed between 1999 and early 2004 that in their entirety or at least in part should be of particular interest to the readers of the Journal of East Asian Libraries. Accepted for the Ph.D., D.Phil. and Ed.D. degrees at universities in Canada, Hong Kong, the United Kingdom and the United States, these dissertations cover a wide range of library-related topics: from library administration, library automation, library development, library education and library services to word division in bibliographic records, Western-language books about China, and various aspects of printing, publishing and reading. Each bibliographical entry provides (insofar as possible) not only the author's name and year of birth, his or her dissertation title, the name of the degree-awarding institution, the calendar year and type of degree, the exact pagination of the thesis typescript, and the chairperson of the author's doctoral committee or the author's major thesis adviser; but also a 250-600 word long abstract (edited here in nearly every case), the dissertation's table of contents (limited primarily to the titles of the individual chapters), and a statement regarding the availability of copies of the dissertation. In order to facilitate scholarly communication, the current postal and e-mail addresses of the dissertation authors are included whenever they are readily available.

The present bibliography supplements the annotated bibliography "Doctoral Dissertations on Asia Completed during the 1990s and Concerned with Libraries, Information Services, Information Systems and Technology, Library Education, Books and Publishing, Indexing and Bibliography" (by Frank Joseph Shulman) that appeared in the International Association of Orientalist Librarians Bulletin, no.44 (2000-2001) and that covered the countries of South and Southeast Asia as well as those of East Asia. Contributions of information about additional dissertations for future publication in the Journal of East Asian Libraries will be gratefully appreciated and should be sent to: Frank Joseph Shulman, Bibliographer, Editor and Consultant for Reference Publications in Asian Studies, 9225 Limestone Place, College Park, Maryland 20740-3943 (U.S.A.). E-mail: fshulman@umd.edu
ARISHEE, Jebreel H.


This dissertation set out to investigate the extent to which the personal and cultural values of American and international students are a factor in their satisfaction with library services. We explored the conceptual linkages between cultural and personal values, as well as the effects of values on customer satisfaction.

The present study involved 435 American and international graduate students, among them fifteen from Japan and eight others from China, Korea and Thailand. They all were enrolled in the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh. Descriptive data were collected through a questionnaire survey.

Two levels were measured: cultural values and user satisfaction. There were three sections to the instrument utilized in the study. The first included items designed to collect relevant demographic data. The second contained questions which addressed personal and cultural values. The third section represented the user's opinions of library services and how satisfied he or she was with them.

In measuring cultural and personal values, we used Al-Weqaiy's (1998) approach, in which he used the list of value (LOV) scale (Kahle, 1983), while the SERVQUAL scale (Zeithaml, Parasuraman & Berry, 1990) was used to measure the customer's expectations and perceptions of library services.

With the personal correlation of personal values for international and American students, there was a significant positive correlation between personal values, service quality and satisfaction. A significant positive correlation also existed between power distance, service quality and satisfaction.

Our analysis of the data obtained from the questionnaire indicated that there was no significant relationship between the students' area of geographic origin and any of the eight personal values of the present study. It is worth mentioning, however, that the Japanese students were the only ones to indicate less satisfaction with American library services. We relate this to two major factors: the Japanese students' high expectations, and the fact that they were from a more developed and technologically enhanced background compared to the other international students included in the study. A set of recommendations and suggestions for further research concluded our investigation.


Note: Jebreel Arishee, a native of Saudi Arabia, is also the author of a second doctoral dissertation: "The Use of Information Sources by Faculty in the School of Education, University of Pittsburgh" (Ed.D., University of Pittsburgh, 2000. xiii, 120p.). He was affiliated with King Saud University in Riyadh following his return to Saudi Arabia.

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]
ARSENault, Clément (1962-).


The Romanization of Chinese script can enhance access in online bibliographic databases by facilitating the filing, searching, and browsing of records. In the mid-1990s, the Library of Congress announced that it would replace the Wade-Giles Romanization system with the pinyin Romanization system for transcribing Chinese data in its bibliographic records. This decision was destined to have a substantial impact throughout the North American library community.

In its canonical form, pinyin (as opposed to Wade-Giles) aggregates Chinese "words" into single linguistic units. Since Chinese characters represent monosyllabic morphemes rather than words, Chinese text, in its original form, does not provide visual cues to indicate where a word starts or ends, and, therefore, does not provide guidance for joining syllables when the script is Romanized. In this respect, pinyin entries in bibliographic records can be constructed following either a monosyllabic or a polysyllabic pattern. Although the former is easier and less costly to implement, the latter method is potentially more beneficial for end-users, since combining single syllables into linguistic units greatly reduces ambiguity, and generates a much larger variety of indexable terms, thereby improving precision in online retrieval.

The goal of this dissertation was to determine whether following the polysyllabic method significantly improves retrieval efficiency and effectiveness in item-specific searching within online bibliographic databases. Analysis of the results revealed that the aggregation of monosyllables does improve efficiency significantly (p < .05), especially during keyword-based searches, and that effectiveness is unaffected by the inconsistencies observed in the aggregation format between cataloger-generated records and user-input queries.


Note: Thirty graduate students from the People's Republic of China at the University of Toronto who were familiar with the concept of Chinese script Romanization participated in Arsenault's experimental investigations. Clément Arsenault may be contacted at the following address: École de bibliothéconomie et des sciences de l'information, Université de Montréal, C.P. 6128, succursale Centre-ville, Montréal, Québec H3C 3J7, Canada. E-mail: clement.arsenault@umontreal.ca


[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

CHANG, Durk Hyun (1967-).


Knowledge and information are regarded as essential for the development and modernization of nation states. Many developing or Third World countries have set modernization as a major goal and strive to achieve it. They can modernize if certain social problems are solved; the problems can only be solved with certain knowledge; and academics provide such knowledge. The dissemination of knowledge throughout the world, however, occurs within a global network that places knowledge under the control of those with power and transfers it from the "center" to the "peripheral" parts of the world.

The Republic of Korea is one of the countries that has eagerly imported the knowledge and information that it has needed from the outside world. With American assistance especially after World War Two, the major emphasis of modernization has been placed on education, higher education in particular, including education for librarianship. The knowledge of American librarianship transferred to South Korea during this historical process has had a significant influence on the development of library and information science (LIS) in South Korea. People are calling, however, for a re-examination of the discipline's knowledge system in the country. Researchers in this realm contend that the transferred Western knowledge, perceived as modern and advanced, seems predominantly authoritative and functions as a "discursive regime" on which academics tend to rely in order to define what should be studied (content) and how it should be studied (method), while resistant discourses are to be produced as well. Situated in this awareness, this dissertation sheds light on the cultural implications of this knowledge transfer process in LIS, using South Korea as a test case.

Our major concern is to identify the process of the transfer of Western knowledge as viewed through the historical development of librarianship in the Republic of Korea, and to conceptualize the cultural implications of its historical context by placing them within a framework of relevant contemporary cultural theories. Our study—historical research anchored within a theoretical framework—embraces three phases. First, it presents an extensive review of relevant theory to explain the phenomena of transnational knowledge transfer. Second, it portrays the history of the establishment of librarianship in South Korea based on primary sources and secondary research. Finally, it provides an analysis of current discursive content of LIS research in South Korea on the basis of the theoretical application of critical discourse analysis.

Contents: 1. Introduction. 2. Theoretical Framework. 3. Historical Context. 4. Discursive Content of LIS [Library and Information Science] in South Korea. 5. Conclusions. 10 tables. Bibliography:
pp.200-23.  
[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

CHUN, Kyungmi.


This dissertation is a descriptive bibliometric study of the literature of the field of Korean studies. Its goal is to present a quantitative description of the literature and to serve as a model for such research in other area studies fields.

This study analyzed 193 source articles and 7,166 citations in the articles in four representative Korean and Asian studies journals published in North America from 1977 to 1996. The journals included in this study were *Korean Studies*, the *Journal of Korean Studies*, the *Journal of Asian Studies*, and the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*. The subject matters and characteristics of the authors of the source articles were examined, along with various characteristics such as the form, date, language, country of origin, subject, key authors, and key titles of the literature cited in the source articles.

Research in Korean studies falls within fourteen broad disciplines, but it is concentrated in a few disciplines. Americans have been the most active authors in Korean studies, followed closely by authors of Korean ethnicity. Monographic literature was used most frequently. The mean age of publications cited was 20.87 and the median age of publications cited was 12. The Price Index of Korean studies as a whole is 21.9 percent. Sources written in English were most often cited (47.1%) and references to Korean language sources amounted to only 34.9% of all sources. In general, the authors preferred sources published in their own countries. Sources on history were cited most by other disciplines. No significant core authors were identified. No significant core literature was identified as well.

This study indicates that Korean studies is still evolving. Some ways of promoting research in less studied disciplines and of facilitating formal communication between Korean scholars in Korea and Koreanists in North America must be sought in order to promote the well-balanced development of the field. This study suggests that as many and as great a variety of titles in all formats as possible must be collected to support research in Korean studies.


*Note:* Kyungmi Chun, the University of Hawaii's Korea Specialist Librarian, may be contacted at the following address: Asia Library, University of Hawaii at Manoa Library, 2550 McCarthy Mall,
Honolulu, HI 96822. E-mail: kyungmic@hawaii.edu
[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

FERGUSON, Anthony Walter (1945-).


This dissertation seeks to answer two questions: What are the information needs of undergraduate Television University (TVU) distance education students in China? and, How are these needs currently being met?

It is a qualitative study that emphasizes letting the voices of the students, teachers, librarians, and administrators of China’s TVUs tell their own story. Interviews (38 groups), surveys (624 individuals) and personal observations (21 sites) conducted in five provinces [Anhui, Jiangsu, Jiangxi, Shandong and Yunnan] and three major cities [Nanjing, Shanghai and Tianjin] were employed to collect data. To summarize the findings and to detect patterns in participant responses, simple statistical tables with frequency counts and percentages were developed. To determine whether differences in student major, urban/rural residence, high/low population density area residence, or rich/poor setting residence were significant in how participants responded to study questions, purposeful samples were drawn.

The study confirms the importance of lectures and learning package materials for distance education students. It also verifies, however, that TVU students employ and want a variety of informational resources. It provides new information about why TVU students go to and value libraries and bookstores; the importance of informal communication with other students, family members, and teachers as an information gathering technique; and the emerging value of the Internet as a source of information.

To better meet the information needs of TVU students, this study recommends the following library and information related actions:
(a) Better information support, in addition to better teachers and more interesting courses, is needed if TVUs are to compete with the traditional universities that also offer distance education courses.
(b) Increased library acquisitions and staff fund budgets are required to better meet student information needs.
(c) Improved access to Internet-linked computers is needed. Otherwise, the proposed TVU virtual library delivered over a national network will be meaningless.
(d) A national public relations effort is needed to convey the message that TVUs can and do have good teachers and students. Too many TVU students unduly question the value of their educational programs.


Note: Ferguson also points out that many of the TVUs are increasingly becoming like traditional universities with dormitories and sports fields and that supposedly supplementary tutorial classes for
students are like ones found at traditional universities. He may be contacted at the following address: 23 Shawan Drive, Block 1, 18b, Pokfulam, Hong Kong. E-mail: ferguson@hkucc.hku.hk

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

HARDY, Steven Ralph (1961-).


During the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, many British expatriates living in Hong Kong and in China's treaty ports wrote fiction that was set in China. While some of it was published in Great Britain, a significant number of works were published in Shanghai or Hong Kong. These works are considered in this dissertation. Fiction published in Shanghai or Hong Kong had as its primary readers members of the expatriate community; in this respect, this fiction was unlike much expatriate fiction, which often explained the foreign place to readers at home.

Two factors encouraged the development of this literature. In the late 1880s, after first achieving success with fiction published for expatriates in India, Rudyard Kipling achieved great popularity at home. It appears that some authors sought to emulate Kipling's success by undertaking in China what he had done in India. The development of various publishing opportunities in China was another spur.

Following an historical survey of expatriate life in China and Hong Kong, I consider works by Elisa Giles ("Lise Boehm"), Charles Halcombe, Paul and Veronica King ("William A. Rivers"), and Leonard D'Olive ("Dolly" or "Dolly Oliver"). My analysis uses Gerald Prince's concept of the narrator to show how the works themselves imply their audience. Giles wrote a series entitled China Coast Tales, and these stories are sharply critical of certain expatriates, especially missionaries and busybody wives. Charles Halcombe portrays Qing dynasty officials as corrupt, and he weaves into his two novels historical events (such as the Taiping Rebellion) and current events (the efforts by Sun Yat-sen and his sympathizers to overthrow the Qing). The most interesting work by Paul and Veronica King is the novel Eurasia: A Tale of Shanghai Life, which explores the responsibilities that Westerners have to their Eurasian children. The works by Leonard D'Olive (born 1875) show the degree to which British expatriates could separate themselves from China. Using China as a mere backdrop for stories that could have been set anywhere, D'Olive's fiction may have helped his readers recreate home life in an exotic foreign locale.


Note: The earliest work that Hardy considers is a novella by Elisa Giles (1860-1921), Formosa: A Tale of the French Blockade of 1884-1885, which first appeared in The North China Daily News (Shanghai) in 1890 and was published as a book in 1906. The last work is Leonard D'Olive's novel Paul the
Pretender: A Romance of Hongkong, which was published in 1912. Steven Hardy may be contacted at the following address: Ohio Valley College, One Campus View Drive, Vienna, WV 26105. E-mail: hardy@ovc.edu

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

HE, Yuming (1968-).


This dissertation investigates the function and construction of private performance space during the late Ming period. It discusses the ways in which private performance space shaped the writing and printing of performance texts, particularly a new publishing genre in the late Ming that is called drama miscellanies (xiqu zashu). It also investigates how this same space provided a motive and sustaining power for the creation of an alternate, non-public space that turned shared public knowledge into a coded language of a social group (aficionados) that was subject to its own fashions and values.

Chapter One discusses the spatial factors that contributed to the narrative structure of the play-within-a-play of closet drama (antouju) in late sixteenth-century China. These closet dramas sacrifice accurate historical time for the spatial representation of private performance. They also reveal how the cultural acts of reading (text) and viewing (theater) were mutually implicated in the growing desire for private performance and in the expanding printing industry of the late Ming. Altogether they opened up a space between page and stage in which new modes of dramatic texts and their performance circulated. This chapter technically serves as a way to contextualize the discussion on drama miscellanies.

Chapters Two through Five cover the so-called drama miscellanies, which were produced by and textualized the space of private performance. Published in the late Ming, they feature a new format: each page is divided into three registers. The broader top and bottom registers record dramatic texts while the middle, and much narrower, register records popular songs, drinking games, jokes, slang, lists of place names, of administrative offices, of official titles, and of local products. This register not only disrupts a conventional, mundane reading experience by introducing possible sets of simultaneous linear materials, but also provokes questions about motive and audience.

Chapter Two (pages 72-105) offers information on the publishers, woodblock printers, and compilers, as well as a survey of the miscellaneous genres found in those books and a brief discussion of the spatial significance of page format. Chapter Three (pages 106-48) examines the formation of this new printing genre as a product of the interplay between print, text, and performance. Chapters Four and Five move to two specific forms of performance texts that can be found in the narrow middle registers of drama miscellanies—popular songs (xiaozhu) and social games—and investigate how these genres shape and are shaped by private performance space in a unique way.

The dissertation as a whole explores the specific terms by which the meanings of text become spatially and performatively significant. Private performance space is productive in that (a) it encompasses productions of theatrical, musical, and social performances; (b) it becomes fertile ground for fashioning the self both as a physical entity enmeshed in sexuality and desire and as a
psychological self, one that is marked by an alternative personality of "unfettered-ness" (fengliu), which could be only temporary, taking shape and disappearing with the space itself; and (c) it conditions, motivates, and structures the writing, reading, compiling, and printing of performance texts in the late Ming.


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[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

KENNEDY, Alan E. (1960-).

Measurement of the "True" pH of Ancient Chinese Paper. Queen's University of Belfast [United Kingdom], 2000 (D.Phil. in Inorganic Chemistry, School of Chemistry). Chairperson/Major Adviser: Kenneth R. Seddon. 10, iii, 222p. Abstracted in Index to Theses with Abstracts Accepted for Higher Degrees by the Universities of Great Britain and Ireland, vol.50, pt.1, entry no.50-1096 and in Dissertation Abstracts International 61, no.04 (Winter 2000): Section C--p.1035. This dissertation is embargoed through June 30, 2005. Contact the Science Library, Queen's University (Belfast BT7 1LS, Northern Ireland, United Kingdom) for information regarding the availability of copies after that date.

The British Library has a collection of about six thousand complete Chinese scrolls and nearly eight thousand fragments, including such items as the coloured star-map of Chien Lo-Chih, almost certainly the oldest extant star-chart from any civilisation. Between 1918 and 1960, damaged scrolls were lined with paper in an effort to preserve them. These backing papers were held in place by wheat paste adhesive, which contained various acids. An acidic environment weakens paper by breaking up the chains of cellulose fibres that make up the bulk of the paper. Current methods of measurement only determine pH at the surface of the paper; furthermore, they tend to damage the paper.

This dissertation presents a method of measuring the "true" pH of paper which determines pH within the many microscopic cells that exist in paper. These cells are of micron dimensions. Accordingly, an ultramicroelectrode and a reference ultramicroelectrode are required to make measurements within them. An investigation into the current state of microelectrode technology has revealed electrogenerated iridium oxide as a suitable material for the fabrication of a pH ultramicroelectrode. Ag/AgCl coated in Nafion was found to produce a stable reference. Fabrication and testing of ultramicroelectrodes based on these two technologies proved their suitability for "in-paper pH" measurement. Further tests with modern Japanese kozo paper (considered a reasonable substitute for ancient Chinese paper) compared surface and in-paper pH measurements. The in-paper measurement was found to produce a considerably more accurate pH value.

Contents: Not available until July 2005 on account of a university-imposed embargo.

[Source: compiled and edited from the author's dissertation abstract and from information supplied by Queen's University]
LEE, Hyo Sook.

**Automatic Text Processing for Korean Language Free Text Retrieval.** University of Sheffield [United Kingdom], 2000 (Ph.D. in Information Studies). Chairperson/Major Adviser: Peter Willett. 8, 198p. Abstracted in *Index to Theses with Abstracts Accepted for Higher Degrees by the Universities of Great Britain and Ireland*, vol.50, pt.7, entry 50-16867. Copies are available through the British Thesis Service, British Library Document Supply Centre (Boston Spa, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS23 7BQ, United Kingdom), accession number DX216250. A microfilm copy is also available at the Center for Research Libraries in Chicago, Illinois (call number P-80000702).

This dissertation presented an automatic conflated approach for improving the performance of searches in Korean free text retrieval. We investigated the morphological characteristics of Korean and considered the development of language-specific stopwording and stemming routines. The morphological analysis indicated that such major features as contraction, agglutination and homographs must be satisfactorily addressed for effective automatic text processing. Consequently, a Korean stemmer was developed and implemented. It was assessed with standard precision and recall measures using the SMART system as a test bed.

The initial part of our experimental work focused on the development of a stopword list, taking into account the statistical behavior of the terms occurring in two test collections: KT set and KRIST set. The stopword list was developed and non-content bearing terms were removed by an automatic procedure.

In order to develop a stemming algorithm, we focused on the development of a list of suffixes and on context-sensitive rules. For this purpose, a detailed examination was made of the behavior of suffixes in the test collections as well as in standard sources on Korean grammar. A context-sensitive iterative stemmer was developed. It uses a list of suffixes, a table of rules and a stem dictionary, applying minimum stem length context-sensitively.

The stemmer was implemented in the SMART system in order to evaluate its retrieval performance. Two types of indexing and retrieval were undertaken to enable comparative testing: one was with automatic stemming, and the other was with non-stemming. The retrieval results were examined at fixed cutoffs and were evaluated in terms of average precision and recall. Through the statistical significance tests, our assessment confirmed that automatic stemmed searches performed significantly better than unstemmed searches.


[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

LEE, Ka Kui [LI, Jiaju].

**Shanghai shang wu yin shu guan yu jin dai zhi shi wen hua de chuan bo he su zao (1897 zhi 1949): cong shu ji chu ban shi jiao du kao cha.** [Text in Chinese with summaries in Chinese and English: The Commercial Press of Shanghai and Its Dissemination of Knowledge and Formation of Culture in Modern China, 1897-1949: From the Perspective of the History of the Book.] Chinese University of
The Commercial Press of Shanghai is one of the most important publishing houses in China. Its history dates back more than a century. Since its founding in 1897, publishing has been its tool and the advocacy of education its principle. While books and publishing constitute the media and the mechanism for transmitting knowledge and culture, publishing companies act as a middleman for producing as well as spreading knowledge. As evident in Western history, publishing organizations were very often closely linked with the nurturing and growth of intellectuals, together with the formation and transformation of the reading environment. In Chinese history, however, not much has been written about this subject. Therefore, this dissertation investigates the Commercial Press, a large publishing house, from the Western scholarly perspective of the history of book publishing. The cultural function of the Commercial Press is examined, and its influence on disseminating knowledge and molding culture during the first half of the twentieth century are also analyzed.

"Institution", "people" (including staff, readers and authors), "productivity" (publications), "market" and "influence" are the crucial concepts for fully understanding the cultural functions of a publishing organization. This study employs these concepts to examine the transformation of the Commercial Press as an institution and its operating mechanism; the recruitment and departure of its staff, its publishing orientation and direction; and the ways in which its publications met social needs. Our ultimate goal is to illustrate how a vital cultural entity such as the Commercial Press exerted its influence on its times, social atmosphere and people. The dissertation highlights the establishment and emergence of the Commercial Press, which bears an invaluable cultural and historical significance, symbolizing the first cultural restructuring after the Taiping Rebellion. Originating from below, the successful development of a large publishing business such as the Commercial Press served to create the conditions and living space conducive to the growth of a modern intellectual community. In order to cater to the needs of its readers and the market, this innovative publishing house introduced various kinds of innovations. This not only complemented the species that Chinese publications were devoid of, but also facilitated the shift of contemporary reading trends. It can be argued that the political, educational and cultural developments that occurred in late Imperial China and during the Republican period, including the Hundred Days' Reform Movement (1898), the Introduction to New Thoughts, educational reforms, vernacular writing and the New Culture Movement, the Library Movement and the Enlightenment, etc., are all closely related to the Commercial Press and other contemporary publishing organizations.

Books bear the two-sided characteristics of being both "commodity" and "culture". Publishing organizations, on the one hand, are the product of their times and, on the other hand, an important mechanism for affecting the culture of their times. If the cultural function of an ideal publisher is to enhance the cultural quality of a society, then the Commercial Press seems to have found the right balance and the doctrine of the mean as demonstrated by its history throughout the fifty-year period 1897-1949.


Note: Lee Ka Kui serves as Chief Director of the Hong Kong Educational Publishing Company. One of Hong Kong's leading local publishers, it was "founded in 1979 specifically to publish textbooks and educational books for local primary and secondary schools. The company was set up as a direct outcome of the commitment of its parent company, The Commercial Press, to the promotion of education and enlightenment".

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation, supplemented by the Romanization and translation of the table of contents]

LEE, Young Sook (1954- ).


The past two decades in particular have witnessed the integration of people with disabilities into mainstream society. This has become a major political issue in many countries. Disabled people have long been excluded from mainstream education, employment and various community activities, and as a result, many of them have been left unproductive and dependent. That society to some extent has a negative attitude towards disabled people cannot be disputed. Until recently, attention to disabled people focused entirely on their physical well-being rather than on their effective integration. This negative attitude coupled with less integration has in many ways prevented disabled people from developing their potential and from using their ability to pursue independent lives. In this respect, library services for disabled people are regarded as part of the integration of disabled people into mainstream society. Public libraries especially can be seen as the most important institutions for their integration.

This dissertation set out to identify the problems currently faced by mainstream libraries in the provision of library services for disabled people and to present practical solutions appropriate to conditions in Korea. While also addressing such other disabilities as hearing and mobility impairment, it is primarily concerned with visual impairment. Visually impaired people are the most disadvantaged in libraries because of their inability to read printed materials. For data collection purposes, the study relied on a literature review, observation and interviews.

The dissertation is organized into three parts. The first part outlines background information regarding the integration of disabled people, their characteristics and difficulties, and the development of library services for disabled people from earliest times to the present day. The second part presents our research findings with respect to physical, technological and human factors. The last part proposes
solutions to problems and draws conclusions. Our emphasis throughout the study is on making library professionals in Korea aware of the need for library services for disabled people in mainstream libraries.

Following the introduction, Chapter One discusses various issues related to the integration of disabled people into mainstream society. Included are a definition of integration, its purpose, and the environmental factors which encourage mainstream libraries to integrate disabled people into the rest of the population. The practice of integrating disabled people into other sectors in Korea is also discussed. Chapter Two begins by considering the characteristics of the disabilities and the problems and difficulties of disabled people. This is followed by a discussion of the various types of social discrimination and prejudices which they face and of current discriminatory practices in mainstream libraries. Chapter Three summarizes the historical evolution of library services for visually impaired people within the context of the development of technology. The latter is regarded as the most significant factor for bringing about changes in services and for integrating library services for disabled people into the mainstream.

Chapter Four investigates the physical buildings and facilities of mainstream libraries. It not only identifies the general problems associated with library building projects in Korea but also accounts for specific issues related to disabilities in the design of library buildings. Exemplary practices in the United Kingdom for accessible library buildings are also discussed. Chapter Five looks at the impact of information technology on the lives of disabled people—especially visually impaired people—and discusses the possibility of using new technology to enable mainstream libraries to open their doors to these people. Given the fact that access to electronic information is dependent upon the design of Web sites, the issue of accessible Web sites on the Internet is discussed and international efforts to discourage the creation of inaccessible Web sites is mentioned. Chapter Six examines invisible psychological barriers caused primarily by the attitudes of librarians towards disabled people and by less prepared library practitioners which have the most negative impact on the integration of disabled people into mainstream libraries. In addition, problems that have contributed to the low status of Korean public libraries in society is discussed within the context of user development and the integration of disabled people.

Chapter Seven formulates some guidelines in the form of recommendations for accessible library services in mainstream libraries at both the national and local levels. The dissertation ends by presenting some general conclusions and by identifying further areas of research which might contribute to the improvement of library services for disabled people.


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[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information supplied by the author]

LI, Ai-Tzu.

Librarians' Learning in the Workplace. Rutgers University at New Brunswick [United States], 2001
Since the explosion of knowledge and the innovation of technology have drastically changed the characteristics of the workplace, learning has become the most important factor for surviving changes in today's workplace. Librarians, as information professionals, have a strong need to respond to learning opportunities in order to ensure that their skills and knowledge meet the continually changing environments in which they work.

This dissertation focused on informal learning rather than on formal training or continuing professional education in order to provide a better understanding of librarians' learning experiences in the workplace. The purposes of this study were to explore what and how librarians learn in the workplace, to investigate the contextual factors that promote or impede their learning, and to analyze the impacts of learning on individuals and the workplace.

A qualitative study method utilizing grounded theory elements was employed. Eighteen librarians in two unnamed university libraries in Taipei, Taiwan were interviewed and observed in their daily work routines, such as meetings, reference work, and office work. Interviewing people provided an understanding of how they perceived their learning experiences, while observation demonstrated how learning actually occurs in the workplace setting.

The study showed that librarians learned in everyday work activities. Learning and work converged in the workplace. Even though they came to the workplace with a body of knowledge and skills in the library science field, the librarians still acquired considerable knowledge and skills on the job that were not taught in library education programs. Work itself was essential in providing learning opportunities. Librarians primarily learned in an informal way, particularly through interaction with other people. The skills which they learned at work can be divided into four areas: instrumental competencies, communication competencies, reflective competencies, and cultural competencies.

Librarians utilized multiple sources and strategies in the learning process. These included talking to people, reading journals or other materials, referring to files, searching on the Internet, drawing on prior experiences, learning by doing, learning from mistakes, and observing. Attending formal continuing education activities was also important for their professional development. Since a university library is located in an academic environment and the library itself is the center of knowledge, available and abundant resources resided in the work environment. This enhanced the ability of librarians to engage in self-directed learning activities.

The learning process was not independent of context. Some contextual factors, both at the organizational level and at the individual level, facilitate or constrain learning. At the organizational level, these factors include the civil service system, leadership style, relationships between management and employees, working/learning climate, the level of position, and the spatial environment. At the individual level, motivation, personality, and family factors were identified.


[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]
LIN, Su-Hsing (1968-).


Focusing on the early twentieth-century Chinese artist Feng Zikai (1898-1975), this dissertation examines the relationship between Feng's artistic career and China's new publishing industry, particularly the Kaiming Book Company (Kaiming shudian). Feng both taught art and worked as a cover designer and illustrator for the Kaiming Book Company as well as for other publishers. His artistic production included traditional Chinese painting, calligraphy, woodcut prints, cartoons, illustrations, and cover designs. A crucial element in Feng's success was the development of the modern printing industry and the proliferation of publishing houses, which brought about the publication of books, urban magazines, and newspapers, and contributed to the spread of popular culture among the masses in China. This led to the creation of a new category of professional artists, such as the graphic designer. To carve out and profit from a market niche in the booming publishing industry, the Kaiming Book Company seized upon the new popular trend exemplified by the new Japanese-influenced style of Feng Zikai. In his role as an editor and committee member of the Kaiming Book Company, Feng actively disseminated art and art education through such print media as Zhong xuesheng ("The Juvenile Student"). Feng had many of his personal essays, books regarding art, and cartoons published by the Kaiming Book Company. He also designed illustrations for many books which the company produced. This was very uncommon in China at that time. More significantly, Feng utilized the print media to communicate with the growing number of young readers and to disseminate his thoughts and aesthetics to the masses. Because of the circulation of books with innovative cover designs and illustrations, the appreciation of art no longer was limited to a few private collectors. Not only did Feng's art reflect an important page in the Sino-Japanese relationship at the beginning of the twentieth century, but it also played a significant role in the flowering of graphic art in Republican China. [Abstract at http://www.ohiolink.edu/etd/view.cgi?osu1079634774]


Note: See especially chapter 4 (pages 214-313)—"Feng Zikai's Art and the Kaiming Book Company"—which focuses on the history of the printing industry in China before the nineteenth century, the development of publishing houses and their involvement in the arts during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, Feng Zikai and the Kaiming Book Company, and Feng's role in art history and culture in China.

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information at the author's Internet site]

LU, Wenchue (1973-).

Yue du he li jic: 17 shi ji-19 shi ji zhong qi Ou Zhou de Zhongguo tu xiang. [Text in Chinese with abstracts in Chinese and English: Reading and Understanding: The Image of China in Europe from the Seventeenth Century to the Mid-Nineteenth Century.] Chinese University of Hong Kong [Hong Kong,

This dissertation focuses on the changing Western image of China during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Post-Modernist studies in the China field always maintain that the images of China in Europe were distorted, misrepresented, deformed or demonized by the West. Returning to the historical environment, we examine this issue through an empirical approach in which the process of China from the seventeenth century to the Opium War is clearly documented.

Part One is an historical narrative of the paintings and drawings of China by draftsman, engravers, scholars, geographers, botanists and missionaries. Included in our discussion are: (a) The paintings of China by early traders as represented by Johann Nieuhof (1618-1672), the draftsman of the Dutch East India Company, during his voyage to China, and Arnoldus Montanus's (1625?-1683) Atlas Chinensis (London, 1671). (b) The works of the Catholic Jesuits about China: Michael Boym's (1612-1659) Atlas Imperil Sinarun and Flora Sinensis (Vienna, 1656), Martino Martini's (1614-1661) Novus Atlas Sinensis, and Athanasius Kircher's (1602-1680) China Illustrata. (c) William Alexander (1676-1816), who accompanied Earl Macartney's embassy to China and during the trip produced several books with illustrations about the costume of China—among them his Views of 18th Century China: Costumes, History, Customs, coauthored with George Henry Mason. Also included in this category is the engraving volume of George Staunton's (1737-1801) An Authentic Account of an Embassy from the King of Great Britain to the Emperor of China (London, 1797). (d) Commercial artists' paintings of China during the early nineteenth century. They include British painter George Chinnery (1774-1852) and his works—portraits, landscapes and sketches done in Macao and Canton. (e) Finally, the European artists who captured the image of China on the eve of the Opium War—among them the French artists Auguste Borget's (1808-1877) Sketches of China and the Chinese (London, 1842) and Honoré Daumier's (1808-1879) illustrations in Voyage en Chine, etc.

The second part of this dissertation focuses on the aforementioned thematic expressions from the following China-related paintings: (a) the image of Chinese cities; (b) customs and costumes; (c) plants and flora. For each theme, exemplary paintings and illustrations are carefully discussed and analyzed with the aim of determining the kinds of concerns and understandings which these Westerners had about China and how their knowledge and understanding influenced the popular image of the "Middle Kingdom" in the European mind prior to the real conflict and military encounter between the East and West in the nineteenth century.


Contents Translated: 1. Introduction. 2. Initial Impressions: Nieuhof's Journal of His Trip to China and Two Appended Chinese Paintings. 3. Thoughts of Jesuit Scholars: From the Imperial Palace

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[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation, supplemented by the Romanization and translation of the table of contents]

NOGUCHI, Sachié (1945- ).


By means of quantitative and qualitative assessment, this dissertation set out to investigate the users and their use of electronic texts in the Japanese Text Initiative (JTI) through the World Wide Web (WWW), and to develop a model for future use. Conceived in 1995, JTI is an ongoing, collaborative electronic text project of the University of Virginia Library and the University of Pittsburgh's East Asian Library designed to make the texts of classical Japanese literature available on the WWW. Research questions included the demographic characteristics of the users, their use and the purposes for their use of the texts, the differences between native and non-native speakers of Japanese in approaching JTI, and users' needs.

The survey research method using a questionnaire was employed. An electronic survey was conducted over the WWW at the JTI site from March to June 1999. A total of 135 responses were received. The majority of the respondents were native speakers of English (60.5%) while 17.7% were Japanese and 21.8% were categorized as "others". Seventy percent were female and thirty percent male, with a mean age of 35.4 years. They were either students or teachers at various levels of the education system, and they had a high educational level (master's degree as a mode). Users' environmental differences were not reflected in the reasons for their use of the texts, academic and non-academic, between the two native language groups (Japanese, 17.7% and non-Japanese, 82.31%) of JTI users. It is clear that the majority of the users (78.3% for the texts and 71.9% for interactive searching), regardless of their native language, approached JTI in order to use the texts for non-academic reasons. While the data were insufficient to support the formal development of a model for the popular use of electronic texts, some general comments were made, and a framework was developed as the basis for further study. The World Wide Web was confirmed to be acting in the role
of an agent, or vehicle, for the popularization of information or for the democratization of scholarly information. Most respondents expressed the desire that JTI add more texts in order to build a critical mass of them.


Note: Chapter Six (pages 97-276)—"Research Results: Data Analysis"—focused on seven research questions: (a) "Profile of the Respondents", (b) "Reasons/Purposes of Use", (c) "Use of the Texts and Users' Web Environment", (d) "Is Interactive Searching of the Texts Used; for What Purposes, and by What Categories of Users?"; (e) "Differences in Approaching the Japanese Text Initiative by Native Language"; (f) "What Is the Popular Usage of the Electronic Version of Classical Japanese Texts in the Japanese Text Initiative?"; and (g) "What Are the Design Implications for the Japanese Text Initiative Site of the Answers to the Previous Questions?" Sachié Noguchi may be contacted at the following address: C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University, 308M Kent Hall, Mail Code 3901, 1140 Amsterdam Avenue, New York, NY 10027. E-mail: sn2160@columbia.edu

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

ODELL, Dawn Virginia (1964-).


This dissertation examines the interaction of northern European and Chinese art in the period before Chinoiserie, specifically the seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, when many Europeans engaged Chinese art not merely as a source of decoration but also as a crucial means of comprehending Chinese culture. The materials of my study are primarily illustrated travel books about Asia, the majority of which were printed in Amsterdam and written by Jesuit missionaries, East India Company merchants, and European linguists, and include the works of such authors as Athanasius Kircher (1602-1680), Johan Nieuhof (1618-1672), and Olfert Dapper (1636-1689). Adopting a comparative approach, I consider these European publications and their proto-ethnographic and topographical illustrations in conjunction with similar representations produced in China during the late Ming and early Qing dynasties—specifically illustrated "ethnographies" of the Miao people, early encyclopedias, and various editions of "Descriptions of Famous Places". In addition, I discuss paintings and printed books produced by European missionaries, among them Matteo Ricci (1552-1610) and Giulio Aleni (1582-1649), for the Chinese court and literati. These, along with certain forms of Chinese export art, allow me to engage questions about the role of art in conversion, the translation of style across cultures, and the relationship of calligraphy and the history of language to artistic practice. One of my goals is to bring to the attention of historians of European colonialism a body of similar and comparable Chinese material. Our understanding of the links between art and imperialism are limited if we believe that it was only
European artists who sought to develop new ways of picturing foreign lands and people in the early modern period. I argue that certain aspects of mercantilism transform the conventions by which both European and Chinese artists represent the experience of travel and cultural difference in image and text. I show how commerce not only altered northern European conceptions of China from the sixteenth through the eighteenth century, but also how this transformation was reflected in China's own self-representation in export ware bound for European markets.


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[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

RHO, Jin-Ja (1964- ).


The overall purpose of this dissertation was to explore the information needs, the information-seeking behaviors, and the use of community public libraries among first-generation adult Korean immigrants living in the Dallas, Texas, area. The subjects consisted of thirty-six interviewees. Half of them (nine males and nine females) were randomly identified from the Dallas Korean resident directory. The remaining interviewees (nine males and nine females) were identified with the help of three gatekeepers of the Korean ethnic population living in the Dallas area.

Data for the study were collected by means of flexibly-structured, open-ended, face-to-face interviews. The data were analyzed using both content analysis and the ethnographic summary approach according to the constant comparison method.

The expressed needs of the respondents for information were classified into twelve topic areas: children's education, educational opportunities for career development, information for survival, matters regarding family relations, mainstream community information, business-related concerns, general legal aid, health insurance, housing information, basic computer skills, tax assistance, and improvement in English-language literacy.

The immigrants relied heavily on informal interpersonal Korean social networks as their primary source of information. Community public libraries were perceived as irrelevant and inconsequential places for their daily information needs. The immigrants simply did not realize that the libraries existed for them, nor did they acknowledge any benefits of or any necessity for a library in their personal lives. Nevertheless, while they made limited use of public libraries for themselves, the
immigrants were devoted users of the library in connection with their children's schooling.

The importance of learning English was a constantly recurring theme during the interview process. The language barrier led the immigrants to seek information from their own ethnic resources because their lack of proficiency in English affected their ability to go beyond the same ethnic information environment. Furthermore, the language barrier exacerbated the extent to which the immigrants were socially isolated and alienated from mainstream American society.


Note: The research for this study was carried out between December 2000 and April 2001.

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

WAGNER, Ralph Dinsmore (1951-).


The Farmington Plan was a program for the cooperative acquisition of foreign publications. It was established by the Association of Research Libraries in 1948 and was terminated in 1972. The Plan's original goal was that at least one copy of every newly published book of conceivable research value would be acquired, cataloged, and made available for interlibrary loan by at least one American library. This idea can be traced to unrealized proposals for national library cooperation in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. During World War Two, heavy demands for information and inadequate supplies of foreign publications led Librarian of Congress Archibald MacLeish to seek a formal program of cooperative foreign acquisitions. The Plan took its name from a 1942 meeting of MacLeish's outside advisors in Farmington, Connecticut. A subcommittee authorized by that meeting wrote a proposal to divide the responsibility for collecting foreign materials among American research libraries. In 1948 the Plan, sponsored by the Association of Research Libraries, began operating in Western Europe. Under the initial program (described here as subject responsibility), agents in each country acquired current monographs and distributed them to libraries that had assumed responsibility for particular subjects. Problems with the program included errors of omission, inclusion, and classification on the part of the agents and the failure of participating libraries to catalog all of the books which they received. The crisis of the Korean War in 1950 inspired the establishment of an additional program (described here as country responsibility) under which libraries assumed responsibility for acquiring all publications of research value from individual countries, mostly in the Third World. A survey in 1957-58 found both widespread dissatisfaction among librarians and previously unknown successes of subject responsibility in acquiring books that otherwise would not have been added to the national collection. A national conference in 1959 led to the establishment of additional programs under subcommittees dealing with world regions. The termination of the
program of subject responsibility in 1972 led to the abandonment of the name of the Farmington Plan. This dissertation interprets the Farmington Plan in the light of recent theories of nonprofit strategic planning, marketing, and management control.


Note: This dissertation includes some coverage of the acquisition of publications from the countries of East, Southeast and South Asia. Ralph D. Wagner may be contacted at the following address: Dinsmore Documentation, 40 Taylor Avenue, Westfield, Mass. 01085. E-mail: rdwagner@dinsdoc.com


[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

WAN, Yiu-chuen (1955-).


This dissertation studies and explains the development of the public library in Hong Kong during the 156 years of British colonial rule.

Part One (Chapters Two, Three, and Four) examines the development of the libraries that were open to the public during the first century of British rule (1841 to 1941). It argues that the colonial government was apathetic to the provision of public library services and that independent organizations accordingly assumed responsibility for satisfying the reading needs of Hong Kong residents. In this connection, the history of seven major prewar libraries—namely, the Morrison Library, the Library of the China Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, the Victoria Library and Reading Rooms, the City Hall Library, the Hok Hoi Library, the Library of the Chinese General
Chamber of Commerce, and the Fung Ping Shan Library—is examined.

Part Two (Chapter Five) focuses on the libraries that were operated by the Government of the Occupied Territory during the Japanese Occupation from December 1941 to August 1945. Unlike the British, the Japanese Government planned on setting up a public library after its occupation of Hong Kong and succeeded in doing so within three years. The libraries operated by the Japanese, however, were largely for the political motives of propagating Japanese culture and prolonging Japanese military rule in Hong Kong.

Part Three (Chapter Six, Seven, Eight, Nine, and Ten) examines the development of the public library in colonial Hong Kong following World War Two and particularly after the opening of the postwar City Hall Library in March 1962. Disparate forces affecting the development of the public library are reviewed in Chapter Six, indicating that political considerations preceded other factors in shaping the history of the public library of Hong Kong. The colonial government remained apathetic to public library services and its responsibility for developing public libraries was increasingly handed over to the municipal Councils following successive local government reforms. This eventually led to the existence of two self-determining administrative entities—the Urban Council Public Libraries and the Regional Council Public Libraries—for the provision of public library services from 1986 onwards.


Note: Y. C. Wan is also the author of the M.Phil. thesis entitled "The Public Library in a Changing Society: The Experience in the New Territories of Hong Kong" (M.Phil., College of Librarianship, University College of Wales at Aberystwyth, 1989. ix, 242p.). He may be contacted at the following address: University of Hong Kong Libraries, Pokfulam Road, Hong Kong. E-mail: ycwan@hkuec.hku.hk

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

WANG, Mei-Yu.


This dissertation reports on the current status of international document supply in Taiwan, identifies its problems, and explores their possible solutions. To that end, two questionnaire surveys for libraries, one interview survey for information brokers, one questionnaire survey for potential users, and one interview survey for Internet service providers were carried out between Summer 1995 and August 1997. To supplement data gathered from these six surveys, some informal interviews were undertaken
with librarians and people involved with document delivery or information services on various occasions from 1993 to 1995. Our investigation covers eight channels for obtaining transborder documents: (a) incoming international document delivery services provided by libraries, (b) retrieving full-text documents from foreign online "systems via libraries" connections, (c) incoming international document delivery services provided by information brokers, (d) obtaining public documents from foreign Internet sites, (e) direct access to foreign CAS-IAS services (current awareness services combined with individual article supply services), (f) outgoing international document delivery services provided by libraries, (g) outgoing international document delivery services provided by information brokers, and (h) obtaining public documents from Internet sites in Taiwan.

Our study found that considering users' needs, speed and fees, there is no overall "winner" in a comparison of the eight international document supply channels. These channels cannot fully meet potential users' expectations of speed and fees. The operators of the five incoming channels that will most likely be successful in expanding the market will be those with efficient services to meet current and potential users' expectations and with marketing strategies calculated to attract new users. Growth of the outgoing international document supply market is dependent on the development of guidelines for copying activities, the creation of a copyright clearance agency, the publication of more holdings information, and appropriate measures designed to make this information more widely available to foreign countries.


[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

YOON, Hee Sang (1961-).

The Korean Press in Japan after World War II and Its Censorship by Occupation Authorities.
University of Maryland at College Park [United States], 2004 (Ph.D. in Journalism and Public Communication). Chairperson/Major Adviser: Maurine H. Beasley. 2, ix, 313, 1p. Abstracted in Dissertation Abstracts International 64, no.12 (June 2004): 4251-A. Copies are available for purchase in microfiche, microfilm and paper formats from UMI (formerly University Microfilms International) in Ann Arbor, Michigan, order number 3114734. Electronic (online) access is available free of charge via the Internet through DRUM, the Digital Repository at the University of Maryland, at URL: https://drum.umd.edu/dspace/retrieve/245/umi-umd-1302.pdf

This dissertation deals with the censorship of the Korean language press in Japan by the American occupation authorities [SCAP's Civil Censorship Detachment] following World War Two. It focuses on the social roles of the mass media in a minority community when there were harsh media controls such as the discriminatory allocation of printing paper as well as censorship. It finds that, in spite of government controls, the press continued to play important social roles such as community integration,
identity formation, and agenda setting.

The dissertation represents the first scholarly examination of nineteen Korean newspapers, including one for women, and fourteen magazines published by Koreans in Japan during the early years of the occupation. It is based on previously unavailable material recently opened to researchers as part of the Gordon W. Prange Collection at the University of Maryland Libraries. Therefore, the entire dissertation is the only study to date of Korean publications in Japan during the occupation period (1945-1952).

This study discloses the contents of articles scheduled to appear in Korean publications that were suppressed by the censors. Through this study, the voices of suppressed Korean speakers have been revived and can, for the first time, be heard in an open forum. Even though the voices represent quite different ideological factions—those of the leftwing, rightwing, and middle-of-the-road—the study concludes that Korean publications in Japan, reflecting the yearnings of Koreans in Japan, zeroed in on a consensus: Korea is one; therefore, the homeland should overcome the division between the North and the South and develop into a unified nation.

This study shows how a marginalized ethnic minority group, the Koreans in Japan under the Japanese government and the American occupation authorities, recognized themselves as members of the same community belonging to one homeland in spite of their geographical distance from it. It demonstrates the fact that journalism under conditions of harsh control may negotiate with the authorities, or attempt to circumvent control. The study also brings out the fact that, from the point of view of the freedom of the press, controlling the physical media of communication [printing paper] may be more damaging than control of the contents of communication [censorship].


Note: Hee Sang Yoon worked as a reporter for the daily newspaper Dong-A Ilbo (Seoul) between December 1986 and May 2001, and returned to Korea following the completion of his doctoral studies. He may be contacted at the following address: Sky Villa 101, Buam-dong 40-2, Chongno-ku, Seoul 110-021, Republic of Korea.

[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]

YUAN, Young.


This dissertation explored the perceptions of Taiwanese technological higher education administrators regarding the motivation and capability of their institutions to form an intercollegiate alliance, their preferred areas of collaboration, and the attributes of their preferred partners. Possible differences in the perceptions of administrators from public and private institutions respectively were
also explored.

The study targeted six chief administrators in each of eighty-eight technological and vocational higher education institutions in Taiwan. A mix of quantitative and qualitative research designs was used to collect and analyze data. Quantitative data were collected from 328 administrators through a questionnaire survey and analyzed using univariate and multivariate statistical techniques. In addition, to obtain a deeper understanding of the process of alliance formation, qualitative data were collected through interviews with thirteen administrators and content was analyzed using emergent themes analysis.

Our findings revealed that Taiwanese technological education administrators were not strongly confident in the competitive positions of their institutions. They perceived themselves as non-competitive in faculty research performance, in obtaining financial support, and in having easy-access locations. Administrators believed that forming an alliance would help them obtain more external resources, achieve academic enhancement, provide better services, have a stronger voice, and obtain promotion to a higher institutional level. Cost cutting was not believed to be an attainable goal.

Strong interest was expressed for an alliance in the sharing of technology, information networks, and library resources; cross-registration; admissions and recruitment practices; school-industry endeavors; and international academic exchanges. The sharing of administrators and staff, joint bidding and purchasing, and cooperative fundraising were of less interest.

Administrators favored partners who had excellent academic programs, who had complementary skills, who were willing to share library resources, and who were enthusiastic leaders. They also wanted partners to match their institutions in performance and prestige and to be geographically close to them. Multivariate analysis of variance did not reveal significant differences between the perceptions of the administrators from public and private institutions respectively. We concluded that despite encouragement from the government and the institutions' eagerness to form an alliance, the administrators had little confidence that a sustainable alliance could be arranged.


[Source: compiled and edited primarily from information in the author's dissertation]