From the President

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members and Friends of CEAL:

The 2005 CEAL elections and annual meetings were both exciting and encouraging. The elections were exciting for the level of response and participation. Many highly qualified CEAL members enthusiastically responded to the request for self-nominations, more members voted than ever before, and the votes for all the positions were very close. This new influx of involvement and commitment to serve as officers encourages all of us to participate in ensuring greater achievements of the CEAL organization.

Our 2005 meeting in Chicago was surely an enjoyable event as we welcomed many colleagues from overseas and from North American institutions attending our meeting for the first time. In addition to numerous informative programs, I addressed the “Characteristics” of CEAL members at the Plenary Session. They are: Creative, Enthusiastic, Accountable, and Listening. During the last few years, each standing committee exhibited creativity in developing its own Home Pages. The electronic voting system, online back issues of JEAL, Online CEAL Directory, and Online Statistics are in place. Our members are also enthusiastically and energetically conducting cataloging workshops, sponsoring Summer Institute, reviewing and revising the Korean and Pinyin Romanization systems, etc. The standing committee chairs and members have been very responsible in completing projects, conducting surveys, submitting annual reports, coordinating annual elections, and organizing annual meeting programs. In addition, our members are sincere and attentive listeners in considering suggestions and input from others.

The 72nd International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) General Conference and Council will take place on August 20-24, 2006 in Seoul. Joy Kim and Philip Melzer, Co-Chairs of the CEAL Special Committee for IFLA 2006 Seoul, are actively developing and coordinating programs for CEAL members and friends to participate. You are all strongly encouraged to attend this special conference in 2006.

This issue of our journal includes articles on introducing Naxos Spoken word library titles to the Lingnan University Library OPAC, Pinyin Romanization of unofficial place names (whether to join words or not), Japanese Studies librarianship in the 21st century, and Yuan Zhou’s tribute to Wang Chi on his retirement. Reports and minutes include those from the CEAL Executive Board Meetings, the Plenary Session, and the Japan Studies Information Specialist Training Seminar held last December.

Our journal will remain non peer-reviewed, based on the results of the vote taken at the Plenary Session. Nevertheless, we would like to thank Gail King, JEAL Editor, for her efforts and hard work. We also would like to thank outgoing Executive Board members for their dedication and contributions during the last few years. Finally, I would like to welcome our incoming Executive Board members as I look forward to working with them in ensuring continued success on behalf of CEAL.

Sincerely,

Abraham J. Yu, President

Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL)