2-1-2010

From the President

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2010 CEAL conference will be Wednesday, March 24 and Thursday, March 25, 2010 at the Philadelphia Marriott Downtown, and I look forward to seeing many of you there. There will be two pre-conferences, both of which will be held at the University of Pennsylvania. One, a CJK NACO workshop sponsored by the CEAL Committee on Technical Processing, will cover the rules in establishing Corporate Names and Geographic Names in the context of CJK cataloging. The workshop will discuss examples in all three CJK language areas and will include separate practicum sessions. The other, the NCC 3-D Conference, marks the beginning of the third decade of the North American Council for Japanese Library Resources and seeks to plan its future directions. It will include a faculty panel, interviews with national librarians assessing where Japan is in the global information society, and a series of breakout sessions. Attendees can participate in multiple sessions over Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning; half the sessions are framed by a proposition, while half discuss best practices.

The CEAL conference will open on Wednesday morning; unlike previous years, the conference begins with two one hour programs from the Committee on Technical Processing and the Committee on Public Services followed by a joint program organized by the two committees. The Committee on Technical Processing's program will feature the OCLC's Cooperative Identity Hub, presented by Karen Smith-Yoshimura, new developments in cataloging at the national and international level, as well as a report from the Library of Congress. The Committee on Public Services is focusing on outreach, from the perspectives of both the person doing outreach and the person experiencing it. The joint session will cover "Next Generation Catalogs," a hot topic in recent years, but relatively new to the East Asian library community. There will be three presentations from different universities discussing their local Next Generation Catalog implementations as well as issues pertaining to CJK materials. Additionally, a representative from Google will showcase various resources available in Google for scholars and researchers. Then, after a long lunch break, we will resume with a business meeting followed by the Plenary.

The Business meeting will cover the election results, recognition of retirees, directions to the CEAL dinner, and any other issues you want to discuss. It is open to all; I invite your suggestions for agenda items.

The Plenary will focus on the question "The Future of Foreign Language Collections in Transformational Times: What is at Stake?" Professor Peter Bol from Harvard University will address the needs of the academy and the role he sees libraries playing in supporting teaching and research. He will also address how digital resources are changing teaching and research and what role collaboration with other institutions (for example, libraries in China) can play.

Tom Leonard, past ARL President, and University Librarian at the University of California Berkeley, will speak about the academy, research libraries and user needs. He believes that foreign language collections have made America what it is today—a magnet for global studies—and partly explain the shift of the gravity for the world’s center of learning and international education from Europe to North America. He will also discuss Google mass digitization and its impact on foreign language collections, as he has been deeply involved with Google.

Deborah Jakubs, the Rita DiGiallonardo Holloway University Librarian & Vice Provost for Library Affairs at Duke, will address the roles of foreign language collections in meeting the
expectations of the academy as well as the challenges, risks and strategies, not only from her perspective as a former Latin American studies librarian but also as a current library director. Building on her history with Mellon and the Global Resources project, she will address collaboration and its role.

Peter Zhou will report on an environmental scan of changes currently underway, some in response to the budgetary challenges faced by most universities, others in response to changes in scholarship and information delivery. The survey will address budgetary challenges and their impact on collections & services; organizational changes in East Asian branch libraries, East Asian technical services, and collection development for East Asian studies; open access and mass digitization (Google, Hathitrust, local, etc) and the extent of digitization of East Asian materials; and strategies including cooperation, outsourcing and other measures for cost saving. We request your cooperation in filling out the survey and returning it quickly. We have shared our survey instrument with CONSALD and CORMOSEA, and are looking forward to a report on South and Southeast Asian collections as well.

The chairpersons of standing committees have been working with committee members to arrange programs that will report professionally relevant news and important accomplishments in their areas of responsibility. This year, the Chinese Materials Committee will have 6 presenters from art libraries and academic libraries in North America to address issues relevant to Chinese studies materials, particularly, in the face of the current economic downturn. The theme for the Japanese Materials Committee is “Collection & Services in Google Age: What Should Japanese librarians Know,” and includes presentations on the possible impact of the election and the change of government on Japanese libraries, locating primary sources and archival institutions in Japan, and conducting reference in the age of Google. The Committee on Korean Materials will have two meetings: one, during the regular meeting time, will be devoted to the topic of stories of digitization of rare and special collections of Korean materials, while the other will be given by representatives from two National libraries in Korea focusing on their new programs and services. The Membership Committee has joined forces with the Small Collections Roundtable and is sponsoring a joint program.

Several groups with many CEAL members—Special Interest Group on Genealogy and East Asian Diasporas, Shashi (Japanese Company Histories), and Science, Technology and Medicine—are also organizing programs. The Diaspora group is planning a series of reports on collections about East Asian immigrants held by libraries in the U.S. and Canada. Meanwhile, OCLC is holding its Users’ Group meeting on Friday, and there will be the usual panels and book exhibits associated with the AAS conference.

Finally, we are finalizing plans for the CEAL dinner. Alban Kojima and Chi-wa Chan from the University of Pennsylvania are arranging this, and you will soon get information about registering. I hope you will all be able to attend.

I look forward to seeing you in Philadelphia; let’s hope for good weather!

Kristina Troost
President, Council on East Asian Libraries