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From the President

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 2013 CEAL annual meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 20 and Thursday, March 21 at the Manchester Grand Hyatt in San Diego. This year’s conference theme is “Open Access and Discovery in the Academic Universe: Next Steps for East Asian Studies Research and Library Development”. Speakers have been asked to consider various issues of universal access and knowledge repository and their impact on the future of academic research as well as library collections and services.

Last year, the CEAL Executive Board identified reforming the CEAL annual meeting as a priority. The goal of this reform is to make the annual meeting more effective, productive, and informative than before so that members can gain new perspectives and ideas after participating in the meeting. Therefore, beginning from this year, our CEAL annual meeting will have two distinct components: the first day will be a full-day of plenary sessions all centering around a broad conference theme, with an opening plenary session, a plenary session on collections and a plenary session on services. The second day of the meeting will be a full-day of committee work sessions, each with only 50 minutes of reports, briefings or demonstrations of best practices.

The Wednesday’s opening plenary will feature three nationally-prominent leaders and thinkers—Brewster Kahle, Pamela Samuelson and Clifford Lynch—who will deliver keynote speeches on open access and its implications to research libraries in the U.S. Following the opening plenary, in the afternoon three scholars will explore trends and developments in open access in China, Japan and Korea respectively. The plenary will end with Brian Schottlaender’s keynote speech on the evolution of open access, along with select CEAL members who will share their thoughts on open access services in various member institutions. All these sessions are designed to help CEAL members explore critical issues, ideas, and changing directions impacting our profession today. There will be a CEAL reception at the end of the day.

The program continues on Thursday, with successive committee meetings and additional meetings such as the OCLC User Forum, NCC meeting, and the Chinese Publishing Association’s forum. The program will conclude on Thursday afternoon with a closing plenary to summarize the highlights of this year’s annual meeting and to introduce next year’s conference theme.

Before the plenary on March 19, CEAL Executive Board will hold a half-day retreat so that all board members can come together to brainstorm about how to lead CEAL in the midst of change and transformation in the next few years. The Board has invited Karen Smith-Yoshimura as the Facilitator.

This year’s CEAL annual meeting program does not include a fellowship dinner as we traditionally have had one. Instead we will have a CEAL reception, thanks to a generous grant from The Henry Luce Foundation. Also unlike in the past, this year’s annual meeting will not have a library visit, since the UC San Diego Library will not be able to
accommodate any library tours during the final exam period of the university's Winter Quarter.

The 2013 CEAL annual meeting is organized by the CEAL Executive Board members whose work I want to duly acknowledge. Rob Britt worked diligently to record and post all conference programs and activities on CEAL website; Ellen Hammond organized the Board retreat; all five committee chairs—Susan Xue, Setsuko Noguchi, Yunah Sung, Jidong Yang, and Shi Deng—collectively contributed to the development of the Plenary program; Wen-Ling Liu, Beth Katzoff and Jade Atwill organized the reception and developed the annual meeting’s effectiveness survey; Tao Yang, Toshie Marra and Hee-Sook Shin managed the nomination process for this year’s CEAL election; and finally Ken Klein reviewed and certified all annual meeting program details.

I hope CEAL members will enjoy an engaging annual meeting with vigorous discussions as we meet in San Diego in March 2013!

Peter X. Zhou
President, Council on East Asian Libraries