From the President

Peter X. Zhou

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Last year, the CEAL annual meeting in San Diego focused on the theme “Open Access and Discovery in the Academic Universe: Next Steps for East Asian Studies Research and Library Development,” part one of a two year series of discussions on the issues, challenges and the changing ecology for East Asian libraries in North America. This year, we will have the second part of this discussion when we hold our annual meeting in Philadelphia around the theme of “Scholarly Networking, Inter-disciplinary Research and e-Scholarship: Implications for East Asian Libraries.” Last year’s discussion was focused on the supply side of the general ecology of scholarly information, while this year’s will be on the demand side. We will feature important scholars, thinkers and library leaders and explore how new modes in scholarly communication, teaching, and learning are affecting scholars’ information-seeking behavior today.

Wednesday’s opening plenary will have three nationally-prominent thinkers—Peter K. Bol, Vice Provost of Harvard, Donald Waters, Program Officer of The Mellon Foundation, and Virginia Steel, UCLA’s University Librarian—who will deliver keynote speeches on collections, modules, MOOCs, digital humanities, the changing academic publishing, and strategies for research libraries in the era of globalization. Those are vitally important topics and we can expect to learn much from their visions and perspectives. In the afternoon plenary, three scholars—Alexander Zahlten of Harvard, Victor Mair of University of Pennsylvania and Seung Joon Lee of National University of Singapore—will explore various new aspects of scholarly networking including new media tools, blogs, online forums, and archival research in the age of digitization. This will be followed by a forum featuring Dan Hazen of Harvard who organized the Duke symposium on “The Global Dimensions of Scholarship and Research Libraries” in December 2012, and Marion Frank-Wilson of Indiana University who organized a workshop on “Collaboration, Advocacy, and Recruitment: Area and International Studies Librarianship” at Indiana University in October 2013. They will report on the findings and recommendations from the participants of the symposium and workshop. Three CEAL members will respond to these findings and recommendations. There will be a CEAL reception on Wednesday night.

The program continues on Thursday, with successive committee meetings and additional meetings such as the OCLC User Forum and NCC meeting. The program will conclude on Thursday afternoon with a closing plenary to summarize the highlights of this year’s annual meeting. The CEAL Executive Board will conduct on-site surveys on the effectiveness of this year’s annual meeting.

This year’s CEAL annual meeting program is supported by a generous grant from The Henry Luce Foundation. We will not have a library visit or friendship dinner. Instead, the CEAL reception will provide a venue for members to mingle and socialize.

The 2013 CEAL annual meeting is organized by the CEAL Executive Board members. Rob Britt worked diligently to record and post all conference programs and activities on CEAL website; 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, Tao Yang and Jade Atwill organized the reception and developed the annual meeting’s effectiveness survey; Dawn Lawson, Toshie Marra and Hyokyoung Yi managed the nomination process for this year’s CEAL election.

I welcome all CEAL members to this year’s annual meeting, which I believe will be a stimulating, engaging and thought-provoking experience for all of us. As I finished writing this message, the Chinese lunar New Year has arrived. I wish you all a happy and prosperous Year of the Horse!

Peter X. Zhou
President, Council on East Asian Libraries
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