Committee Activities

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COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

CEAL COMMITTEE ON CHINESE MATERIALS
Annual Meeting
Thursday, March 26, 1998, 8:30-10:30 a.m.
Washington D.C. Hilton Tower

Yeen-mei Wu, the Chair of the Committee, began the meeting with a brief introduction of the program and the speakers. The theme of the program was “Information Technology and Library Services in Chinese Studies.”

1. Chinese Text Initiatives at the University of Virginia

Chung-ming Lung, the East Asian Librarian at the University of Virginia, gave a report on the Chinese Text Initiative there. The goal of the Initiative is to make classical Chinese literature available on the World Wide Web. The first full text, the T'ang shih san pai shou 唐詩三百首 (Three hundred Tang poems), was officially made available on the Web in January 1998. The poems are presented in Chinese with English translations. The text is processed with SGML and became part of the online archive at the UV’s Electronic Text Center after creation. Searchable indexes for author, title, and keyword in both Chinese and English are provided. The project was a collaboration of faculty members, computer staff and the East Asian librarian. The Initiative is an ongoing project. Future texts include Shih ching 詩經, Hung lou meng 紅樓夢, Ku yao yen 古瑤譯, and Ch’u tzu 楚辭

II. Online Bibliography of Chinese Gazetteers

Thomas Hahn reported on the online bibliography of Chinese gazetteers, which is a collaborative project with the Australian Center of the Asian Spatial Information and Analysis Network. The project will merge geographical data with bibliographical data based on the standard reference works on Chinese local gazetteers, such as Chung-kuo ti fang chih tsung lu 中國地方志總録 or Chung-kuo ti fang chih tsung mu ti yao 中國地方志總目提要. Place names at the county level will be given in both Chinese characters and pinyin, with their population data and bibliography provided. Gazetteer data after 1949 will not be included. The online bibliography is intended to cover about two hundred geographical entries with 1,800 bibliographical references. This data can be viewed by either GB or Big5 code. Funding is being sought. The project will begin with Yunnan province and is planned to be complete in fifteen months. Eventually a CD-ROM version may be produced and made available.

III. Maintaining a “ChinaLinks” Website for Teaching and Research: a Teaching Faculty’s Perspective

Professor Marjorie Chan of Ohio State University gave an introduction to and demonstration of her “ChinaLinks” website (http://deall.ohio-state.edu/chan.9/c-links.htm). The site has annotated links to over two hundred China and Chinese language and linguistics web sites especially designed for students and researchers. The links are organized into four categories: (1) Search engines, Chinese studies, E-text, and Netnews; (2) Chinese language software and Audio/video programs; (3) Chinese languages and linguistics; and (4) General linguistics and Internet
resources. Some of the special features and sites were highlighted. The “ChinaLinks” website will be upgraded continually. Input and feedback are welcome.

IV. Doing Business with China: an Electronic Approach

Richard Wang of UCSD reported on his “Doing Business with China” project. The project was to create a database that contains three parts—an annotated bibliography of business reference works in print as well as in CD-ROM format; a list of links to databases pertaining to the project, and a service program to assist students with their research for the course “Doing Business with China.”

V. Vendors’ Services, a Summary Report

Yeen-mei Wu gave an overview of Chinese vendors in China, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the U.S. and other countries as to their services, price structure, and subject speciality. She stressed that with technological advances, various options are available in selecting vendors and in ordering of books, serials, newspapers, videos, and CD-ROMs. Three articles on vendor services were recommended: 1. “A Short Note on Current Chinese Online Bookdealers,” by Thomas Hahn (Journal of East Asian Libraries, no. 113 [Oct. 1997], 26-32); 2. “Comparison of vendors’ services between US and East Asian vendors” by Li Guoqing (unpublished); 3. “Chinese Booksellers in Hong Kong,” by H.C. Li (CEAL Bulletin, no. 106 [June 1995], 39-44). A list of vendors with their e-mail addresses and URL of their websites was distributed at the meeting for reference.

Special Report

Continuing Series of Ssu k’u ch’üan shu Projects and Their Acquisitions in North America

Guoqing Li, a participant in the workshop celebrating the completion of Ssu k’u ch’üan shu ts’ un mu ts’ ung shu 四库全书存目丛书出版庆典暨专家鉴定会 from November 1-3, 1997, in Beijing, reported on the event, the Ssu k’u ch’üan shu, and other Ssu k’u related publications published in recent years. They are Ssu k’u ch’üan shu ts’ un mu ts’ ung shu 四库全书存目丛书 (1,200 v. 1995-1997), Hsu hsiu Ssu k’u ch’üan shu 续修四库全书 (1,800 v. 1995-1999), Ssu k’u chin hui shu ts’ ung k’an 四库禁毁书丛刊 (300 v. 1997-1999), Ssu k’u wei shou shu chi k’an 四书未收书辑刊 (300 v. 1997-1999), Wen yuan ko Ssu k’u ch’üan shu tien tzu pan 文渊阁四库全书电子版 (150 CD-ROM, 1997), and Wen yuan ko Ssu k’u ch’üan shu pu i, Chi pu 文渊阁四库全书补遗·集部 (15 v., 1997).

Mr. Li also mentioned the selected versions of the Ssu k’u series as follows: Ssu ku ch’üan shu hui yao 四库全书荟要 (100 v., 1997), Ssu k’u ch’üan shu ching p’ in wen ts’ un 四库全书精品文存 (30 v., 1998), Ssu k’u ch’üan shu ching hua 四库全书精华 (30 v., 1996), and Ssu k’u ch’üan shu wei shou shu shu let ku chi ta ch’üan 四库全书未收术数类古籍大全 (10 v., 1995).

Mr. Li reported on the results of a survey he conducted regarding the acquisitions of the above series by libraries in North America. A number of libraries have already acquired or intend to purchase some of the series.
CCM Project: “Union List of the Newspapers on Chinese Studies in Non-print Format,” a Progress Report

Ai-Hwa Wu reported on the current status of the Union List of Newspapers on Chinese Studies in Non-print Format. A team has been formed to coordinate the project. The members are Kuei Chiu of the University of California at Riverside, Robert Felsing of the University of Oregon, Karen Wei of the University of Illinois, and Agnes Wen of the University of Pittsburgh, with Ai-Hwa of Arizona State University as the project manager. Libraries having the targeted newspapers are asked to either send the url’s of the websites of the their listings, or supply their listings on disk to any of the team members. Each entry should include the title in Chinese, Wade-Giles, and pinyin, title variations, if any, imprint, frequency, format (e.g., microfilm, fiche, CD-ROM), language of text, if not obvious, any significant notes, and detailed holdings.

Announcements

Yeen-meI Wu, Chair of the Committee on Chinese Materials, invited everyone to attend the celebration of the seventieth anniversary of the LC Chinese Section, sponsored by the Committee on Friday, March 27, 1998, from 9-10 p.m. at the Hilton.

Dr. Jacqueline Nivard, the co-editor of Review of Bibliography in Sinology and Dr. Pingfeng Chi of the Center for Chinese Research Materials introduced two recent reference publications: the Review of Bibliography in Sinology, and Hsin pien hung wei ping tzu liao 新編紅衛兵資料 (New Collection of Red Guard Publications), respectively. Mr. Frank Shulman reported on two major reference works that he has compiled and edited. They are Doctoral Dissertations on China and on Inner Asia, 1976-1990: An Annotated Bibliography of Studies in Western Languages, to be published Fall 1998 by Greenwood Press (Westport, Connecticut, and London); and Doctoral Dissertations on Hong Kong, 1900-1997, An Annotated Bibliography of Worldwide Research, to be published by Hong Kong University Press, 1999.

(Jean Han, Recorder)

The 70th Anniversary of the LC Chinese Section: Past, Present, and Future
Friday, March 27, 1998, 9-10 p.m.
Washington D.C. Hilton Tower

To celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the Chinese Section in the Library of Congress, a special commemoration was organized and sponsored by the Committee on Chinese Materials. Three papers were presented: (1) “The Chinese Section, Builders and their Legacies” by Wei-ying Wan; (2) “The Chinese Section at the Crossroads,” by Tai-loi Ma; and (3) “Some Personal Reflections on the Chinese Section,” by Mary Rankin. Discussants included Karl Lo and Pingfeng Chi. A reception followed with a brief speech given by the special guest of honor, Mr. Arthur W. Hummel, Jr., former U.S. Ambassador to China.

(Jean Han, Recorder)
CEAL COMMITTEE ON KOREAN MATERIALS  
Annual Meeting  
Wednesday, March 25, 1998, 7-9 p.m.  
Washington Hilton, Washington D.C.

Presenters:  Yoon-Whan Choe, University of Washington, Seattle  
             Hyonggun Choi, University of Chicago  
             Yong Kyu Choo, University of California, Berkeley  
             Mikyung Kang, University of California, Los Angeles  
             Joy Kim, University of Southern California

Kyungmi Chun, Chair of the committee, called meeting to order at 7:00 pm. A short review of the agenda was followed by a word of welcome to the audience.

1. Report on NITR (Name Index of Trial Records)

Yoon-Whan Choe reported on the NITR project which was launched in 1997 in an attempt to compile a comprehensive name index based on the reprint entitled, Ilche ha kongpan kirok charyojip. The set of 385 volumes consists mainly of trial records of the Japanese court in Korea from the late 1920s to 1944, including official summonses, descriptions of defendants on trial and charges against them, as well as the actual court proceedings. Ms. Choe explained how to search the Korean Name Index. She emphasized that only the McCune-Reischauer romanized forms are searchable. The result can be displayed in Korean and English along with other information such as record number, address, volumes and notes. Ms. Choe noted that the index will be updated with case information to each record providing the capability of searching by trial case. The index is currently available on the Web. The URL for NITR is:
http://www.lib.washington.edu/ASP/DATABASES/NITR.

2. Electronic Resources for Korean Studies

2.1. Rethinking CD-ROMs in East Asian setting

Hyonggun Choi shared his experience in housing a new format of library materials, CD-ROM. He found it advantageous when compared to other types of electronic media considering that a small number of CD-ROMs could handle a great amount of information with speed. Moreover, data on a CD-ROM cannot be erased accidentally by users. However, Mr. Choi pointed that the adoption of CD-ROMs in libraries created new concerns for libraries in terms of the need to provide more workstations with CD-ROM drives and ample space to install them adequately, while space in libraries is decreasing more and more. Mr. Choi identified three types of CD-ROMs: (1) collected works of writers, or the many editions of a specific work such as Ssu-ku-chiian-shu and Choson Wangio Sillok (Annals of the Chosun Dynasty); (2) reference tools such as Kyemongsa tae paekkwasajon and Asuki Shuppan Ji-ten-ban; (3) full-text journals on CD-ROM such as Yeju Image's Korean academic journals and Maruzen's Meiji kanko tosho.
micro ban shusei. He concluded that librarians should participate in determining the standards for how information is published and presented in terms of both content and interface of CD-ROM products.

2.2. Korean Studies Resources on the WWW

Joy Kim introduced Internet resources on Korean studies that she compiled in a joint effort with Yong Pyo Hong of Hanyang University. The handout distributed by Ms Kim at her presentation gave further information about 44 major databases covering all kinds of Korean studies related subject areas in various type of databases from bibliographic indexes to full-text journals. Ms. Kim encouraged the audience to try out actual sites in the list to learn more about the possible usage of each different database. She explained how exciting an experience it was to find so many valuable resources available on the Web free of charge. Ms. Kim was requested by the audience to place her handout on the Committee's home page on CEAL's website.

2.3. Commercial Online Databases on Korean Studies in Korea

Mikyung Kang reported on major commercial online databases in Korea, introducing her experience with Chollian, Hitel, Unitel and Nownuri (Nowcom). Services from these systems include, in most cases, Internet services, web-hosting services, interest group support services such as group chatting, bulletin boards and newsgroups, as well as practical information on stock quotes, shopping, and much more. Ms. Kang summarized her overview of the issues related to the services she tested by drawing six conclusions:

1) there are relatively few scholarly information resources
2) freely accessible databases are on the increase
3) controlling entertainment resources is difficult
4) searching is inexpensive (or) rates for searching are low
5) interfaces are often not user-friendly
6) software environment is not standardized

She noted that we have access to a great variety of resources across the world, but if connections are attempted at bad times, use of these resource may be difficult.

3. Report on Korean Collections Consortium of North America

Yong Kyu Choo, chair of the Korean Collections Consortium, presented an activity report of the Korean Collections Consortium of North America for the year 1997. He announced that the University of Toronto became the latest new member of the Consortium, which is now made up of nine member institutions. The homepage of Korean Collections Consortium, created and developed by Mr. Choo, has links to each individual member library for further information regarding the specialized subject areas of each member library. The URL is http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/KConsort/index.html. He reported also about a change in budget allocation for next year, the last contract year from Korea Foundation to the Consortium.
members, a consequence of the economic crisis in Korea. By providing US$10,000 twice over the next two years, 1998 and 1999, the Korea Foundation will fulfill its commitment to the development of Korean cooperative collections in North America. In conclusion, Mr. Choo also reported on decisions made by members at the last meeting in Chicago about following items:

1. North Korean materials: As there is only a very limited number of titles at this subject to be divided by the members, it was agreed that each institution will collect as much as they can.

2. Annual report of KF (Korea Foundation) funded materials: Annually the list of titles purchased with KF funds is submitted by the Consortium members to the Foundation along with a financial report. For any recommendations of titles, it is acceptable to send suggestions to individual libraries in accordance with their specialized subject areas.

4. Announcements

1. Sonya Lee from the Library of Congress announced that the Korean Bibliography Databases, prepared by the Korean Section in LC, will be available on the Asian Division Homepage sometime this summer. Consisting of about 7,500 records of English-language books on Korea, the database is expected to make a valuable contribution to research in the field of Korean studies.

2. Hyonggun Choi from the University of Chicago Library announced that a meeting of the CIC (Committee on Institutional Cooperation) Initiatives for Korean collections will be held in the same room following the meeting of the Korean Materials Committee. The meeting will further discuss the proposal for the CIC Korean Collections Consortium Task Force, submitted in January to the CIC libraries during the ALA Mid-Winter Conference.

3. Maureen Donovan, publisher/editor of Asian Database Online Community Electronic Newsletter announced that any comments, suggestions, and relevant contributions are always welcome.

(Hyokyoung Lee, Recorder)
CEAL TECHNICAL PROCESSING COMMITTEE
Annual Meeting
Thursday, March 26, 1998, 3:30-5:30 p.m.
Washington Hilton, Washington D.C.

1. Library of Congress Report

Philip Melzer provided a report from the Library of Congress on major activities related to technical processing.

The Regional and Cooperative Cataloging Division received and completed about 55,000 items in 1997: receipts and completions were about 7% below the level for 1996. Human resources available to RCCD have declined steadily over the years, due to retirements, death of staff, and personnel actions (e.g. transfers/promotions to positions in other divisions). Since 1993, the division has lost twenty-three catalogers and thirteen technicians; of these only five of the catalogers and two of the technicians have been replaced.

During FY97, the amount of incoming Chinese material dropped by more than 25% compared with the year before. This enabled some Chinese-language catalogers to spend part of their days training other catalogers and working on projects for other teams. Nevertheless, 5,900 Chinese language items received full or copy cataloging. The Korean-Chinese Team provided full, copy and minimal level cataloging for 2,734 Korean language items in FY 1997, compared with some 3,600 in 1996. One reason that production has decreased is because very little new and backlogged material merits minimal level treatment, while fuller level cataloging is more time-consuming.

Korean language catalogers and others at the Library trained two Korean catalogers from the Korean Advanced Institute of Science and Technology (KAIST) for one week in December. The curriculum focused attention of AACR2, the MARC record, subject cataloging, and exchange of bibliographic data. Because KAIST’s Korean MARC record is so similar to the USMARC record, the Library hopes to be able to exchange bibliographic data with KAIST at some time in the future.

James Lin, Team Leader of the Japanese Team I, resigned on April 5, 1997 to assume a position at Harvard Yenching Library. Since then, Isamu Tsuchitani has served as leader of both teams. The Japanese teams have lost two expert subject catalogers who were responsible for cataloging material on law, government, military sciences, literature, technology, and library science.

The arrearage reduction project which began in October 1995 to eliminate around 90,000 items in the Asian Division by the year 2000 continued to be very successful. During the past year, the two Japanese teams processed 20,455 items, mainly as collection-level cataloging.

The Asian Materials Cataloging Seminar, scheduled to be held just after the CEAL meetings on March 30 and 31, 1998, was announced. Some ninety participants were expected to attend.
It was announced that the Library is considering updating the headings for Chinese place names which appear in “best-known” form according to Rule Interpretation 23.2. The headings for most of the provinces and many of the major cities use forms that were adopted in the 1920’s and 1930’s and no longer represent the best-known form of the name. It was expected that recommended changes would be sent to the Library community for comment in the near future.

2. Technical Processing Committee Reports

Philip Melzer gave an update on the project to revise the 1983 edition of the AACR2 workbook for East Asian material. The workbook will consist of Chinese, Japanese and Korean examples of AACR2 cataloging rules and LC rule interpretations. The scope of the text is being expanded to include chapters on references, music, microforms, and cartographic material.

Nine CEAL catalogers are compiling individual chapters:

Amy Tsiang  
Chapter 1 - General rules for description  
Chapter 12 - Serials

Tomoko Goto  
Chapter 2 - Books, pamphlets, printed sheets  
Chapter 7 - Motion pictures, videorecordings

Wen-ling Liu  
Chapter 3 - Cartographic materials  
Chapter 22 - Headings for persons

Reiko Yoshimura  
Chapter 5 - Music  
Chapter 6 - Sound recordings

Hideyuki Morimoto  
Chapter 9 - Computer files

Abraham Yu  
Chapter 21 - Choice of access points

Vickie Fu Doll  
Chapter 23 - Geographic names  
Chapter 24 - Headings for corporate bodies

Seunghi Paek  
Chapter 25 - Uniform titles  
Appendix C - Numerals

Yu-lan Chou  
Chapter 26 - References

The compilers asked for Library of Congress involvement in this undertaking, and the Library has agreed to work with CEAL to make it a joint project. (In fact, the project has been added as an element in the Cataloging Directorate’s tactical plan.) LC catalogers will help by contributing examples of cataloging rules or rule interpretations in all of the CJK languages. After the difficult and time-consuming task of compilation has been completed, drafts of individual chapters will be sent to the Library for proofreading and editing.
The group hopes to make the workbook available in more than one format, if possible. It is hoped that both print and web versions will be published. Also, the Library of Congress’ Cataloging Distribution Service will investigate the possibility of mounting a cyber version of the workbook onto Catalogers Desktop.

A sheet with the names of the compilers, and their email addresses, was distributed to the assembled group. East Asian librarians were urged to share examples of pertinent rules and rule interpretations with the compilers of the various chapters, especially examples of non-book materials such as maps, music, and microforms.

3. Other Technical Processing Reports


As to the coverage of completed conversion, just about all general Chinese monograph titles have been completed. For Japanese, Yenching monographic records in class numbers 3000 (history and geography) and 5000 (language and literature) have been completed. Presently class numbers 4000 (social sciences) and 6000 (arts) are being worked on. For Korean, all records cataloged after 1978 were converted in the first phase. The pre-1978 cataloging records which have been converted come from Harvard-Yenching call numbers 100-4546.

Beatrice Ohta of the Library of Congress gave a report on the Library of Congress Microform Project. She also reported on plans to update the RLIN vernacular character set. She distributed printouts of characters that have been found missing from the RLIN character set in the course of cataloging. Ms. Ohta also provided answers to several frequently asked cataloging questions.

4. Core Level Cataloging

Wen-ling Liu presented a paper on Core level cataloging. Her paper appears on pages 41-48 of this issue of the Journal of East Asian Libraries.

5. Pinyin Conversion

Karl Lo, Chairman of CEAL’s Pinyin Task Force, led an open session on pinyin conversion. Comments and questions concerning the pinyin conversion project were put forward by those in attendance.

RLG announced it will convert all Chinese-language records in the RLIN bibliographic files from Wade-Giles to Pinyin romanization at no cost to the libraries that created the records. Both romanized-only records and those with CJK scripts will be converted, totalling over two million records. Libraries will then be able to order snapshots at standard RLG rates of their converted
records to load into their local systems. RLG is working closely with LC staff on the specific requirements of the conversion and on coordinating the timing, so that the records will be converted as closely as possible to "Day 1" of the change to Pinyin romanization and to the associated changes to headings in the authority file.

(Philip Melzer, Recorder)