



# EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



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## Winter, 2010

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### Face the Challenges and Deliver Quality Services to Our Communities

*By Zhijia Shen*

The year 2009 was a year of challenges and achievements for the East Asia Library. As many of the challenges continue into 2010, EAL librarians and staff continue being creative in delivering high quality services to our user communities. The top challenge has been the budget reduction faced by the University and Libraries. We have gone through a major serials cancellation. Over \$40,000 worth of EAL print serial subscriptions were cancelled in 2009. The budget reduction also caused the EAL to lose two full-time staff positions, of which the work EAL staff must absorb. To facilitate the University Libraries branch consolidations, part of the EAL's Auxiliary Stacks in Kane Hall has been used as the staging area for the moving and shifting. Many EAL newly cataloged collections cannot be shelved into their locations in the Auxiliary Stacks. All has presented significant challenges to the East Asia Library.

Facing tough challenges, the EAL staff is determined not to let the service to our users slide. Instead, we believed that tough challenges also present opportunities—they force us to look at our operations closely and be creative in identifying efficiency to optimize our existing resources. EAL staff believes that it is very important for us to strengthen services during economic downturn to build confidence in our users. In the summer of 2009, the director of the EAL formed a Taskforce on Service Models and appointed Hyokyong Yi, our Korean Studies Librarian, the chair of the taskforce. The task force conducted interviews with staff and examined the existing workflow and reviewed the entire technical service operations at the EAL, and successfully completed its charges. Based on the recommendations of the Task Force, actions were taken in the following areas: 1) Taking advantage of improved vendor services. EAL has combined the

acquisition and simple cataloging processes, which has reduced manual and duplicative work. 2) To make good use of student hours, marking operations are combined with the circulation services, which allows student assistants and staff members to apply marking labels and bar-codes to newly cataloged materials while working at the information desk when traffic is slow such as in the evenings and on weekends. This has significantly improved marking operations, eliminated marking backlogs, and kept a 24-hour turn around for the marking. 3) The Task Force also recommended enhancing EAL public services by having subject librarians provide desk hours at the Information Desk. We believe this will encourage more interactions between our users and librarians and effectively promote EAL services.



### EAL staff with visitors during the Open House

On February 11, 2010, for the first time EAL offered an Open House to introduce our library services, collections, and facilities to students, faculty, and staff. The Open House was set in the context of the Lunar New Year celebration. Keiko Yokota-Carter was appointed chair of a working group with the Chinese and Korean studies librarians being members. All EAL staff participated in organizing and presenting the Open House. It was a great success. About 100 people visited during the four hours of the Open House. About fifty people took the “quiz” to learn about the EAL, 35 won prizes, and three won a \$20-certificate to the UW Bookstore. The three lucky winners are Matsuko Nakahara, Santosh Devasia, and Maria Brown. In conjunction with the Open House, the EAL also

implemented the exhibit to celebrate the New Year of the Tiger and the East Asia Library.

During the past winter break, EAL replaced its over 35-year-old carpet in its reading-room, thanks to the Allen Endowment Fund. The newly carpeted and beautiful reading-room provides a much more welcoming studying environment to our users and serves as a cultural and information commons for the studies and understanding about East Asia.

To reach out to our communities, the EAL offered several cultural and academic events in the Summer and Fall quarters of 2009. Collaborating with the Consulate General of China in San Francisco, UW China Studies Program, and many other units on campus, EAL organized a series of cultural events in celebration of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of U.S.-China relations. Four major events were presented to the UW and Seattle communities: A reception co-hosted with the Provost’s Office in June, at which the Chinese Consul General GAO Zhansheng presented gift books for the EAL collection to Dean Wilson of the UW Libraries; a Chinese film week in October, which presented the renowned woman film director, Peng Xiaolian, and her films; an exhibit on US-China Relations from the Consulate General of China joined by materials from the Anna Louis Strong Papers of the UW Libraries’s Special Collections in November and December; and a Symposium in Celebration of 30 Years of US-China Relations: “China in America and America in China” in December. The last three events were open to the public of the Seattle area and were extremely well attended. At event, there were around 100 people in attendance; many were from the local communities. Through these events, we effectively promoted the cultural understanding about China, and the University, and UW Libraries to our local constituency.

Also in the summer of 2009, in collaboration with Seattle Public Library, UW China Studies Program, Wenxin Literary Association, and Seattle Chinese Literary Salon, EAL co-organized the Symposium “A Generation of Flying Swans: Symposium on

Chinese Immigrant Writers in North America and Their Works” at the Seattle Public Library. The three-hour program was in Mandarin Chinese, including presentations by three Chinese writers speaking about their writing experience and works; a panel discussion about the development and achievements of Chinese immigrant literature in North America; and then the award ceremony for the Chinese language-writing competition followed by book signing.

Working together with our students, faculty, and staff to face the budget challenges, EAL continues to strive for excellence in services. In this issue, you will find many more stories.

## National Central Library of Taiwan to Collaborate with UW Libraries' East Asia Library to Digitize Rare Chinese Classic Books

*By Zhijia Shen*

University of Washington Libraries' East Asia Library (EAL) and National Central Library of Taiwan (NCL) has announced a project to digitize Chinese rare books held at the East Asia Library and Special Collections at University Washington Libraries. The project slated to commence in Summer 2010. The EAL rare book collection includes approximately 600 titles of Chinese rare books, including editions of the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644), books of the Joseph F. Rock collection including many rare local gazetteers of South West China, the Qian Qianyi (a late Ming Dynasty poet- historian, 1582-1664) collection, the Helmut Wilhelm collection (books from Professor Wilhelm, a former UW faculty member and renowned sinologist). NCL will contribute approximately \$91,000 USD, two to three staff members, as well as the equipment. With a target of 80,000 digital images and associated descriptions by December 2012, priority will be given to scanning the titles that are not duplicated by NCL collection, then to scanning duplicate titles but different editions, and finally, scanning missing volumes or missing pages of each partner Library's collections. The digitization work will take place in the East Asia Library, with the EAL staff working with staff from NCL. In addition, NCL will provide

the metadata cataloging for the digitized materials. Once digitized, the collection will become part of the NCL Chinese rare book bibliographic database ( <http://ccs.ncl.edu.tw/rbookhtml/rbookhtml/org.htm>) and available to users via the Internet.

The idea for the partnership began with an informal conversation during the visit to NCL by Dean of University Libraries, Lizabeth (Betsy) Wilson and EAL Director Zhijia Shen in December 2008. A proposal was presented to NCL at a meeting on May 26, 2009 by the China Studies Librarian at EAL, Michael Meng, when he was in Taiwan for a summer training program. The agreement was signed on January 5, 2010.



EAL rare book collection to be digitized

## Visits of Scholars from Other Institutions to Use EAL Collections

*By Eddy Harrison*



Euhwa Tran viewing the newspaper in EAL reading-room

Ms. Euhwa Tran, a graduate student in the master's program at the University of Texas at Austin, came to the East Asia Library in January to use the archival newspaper collection. She is researching a short-lived controversy, the textbook "Ren shi Taiwan" 認識臺灣 which took place in Taiwan in 1997. This case involved the first textbook to be introduced in Taiwan which focused on Taiwan in its own right as opposed to a province of China. Ms. Tran was able to find the rightist view in the *Lian he bao* 聯合報, however locating the leftist view proved to be more difficult. After some investigation it turned out that the *Zi you shi bao* 自由時報 was one of the best sources for this topic. Using OCLC WorldCat, Ms. Tran discovered that in North America only the UW East Asia Library held copies for the time period she needed. She made the trip to Seattle – which was preferable to travelling to Taiwan – and has found the information she wanted.

Other scholars came to use our collections included Professor Katsuktoshi Kurokawa of Okayama University in Japan, who visited the EAL in August to confer on his research focusing on the Seattle Japanese community and Pacific Northwest Labor

history; and Professor Teruko Kumei of Shirayuri College in Japan who were here to collect materials for her research on "Immigrant Senryu Clubs and Japan, 1930s – 1950s." EAL staff members are privileged to have the opportunities to serve scholars from all over the world and enjoy their compliments about our excellent collections and services.



Euhwa Tran with Serials Librarian Eddy Harrison and Chinese Studies Librarian Michael Meng

## REPORTS

### Events and Outreach



Dean Wilson welcomes Director General Ku

**Mr. Min KU, Director General** of Taiwan's National Central Library (NCL), and Ms Hsiao-Ming YU,

Director of Special Collection Division of NCL, visited the EAL on November 30, 2009. They also met with Dean Betsy Wilson of University Libraries (UWL) to discuss the Chinese rare-book digital project between UWL East Asia Library and the NCL. Dean Wilson hosted a lunch in honor of Director General Ku.

**Dr. Yeon Kyoung Chung**, a visiting scholar from Ewha Womans University in Korea, gave a presentation entitled "The Roles and Meanings of the Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH): What's Our Prospects for LCSH?" on August 7, 2009. A professor of Library and Information Science, Dr. Chung was on sabbatical at the EAL. Her presentation was part of a research project, on which she collaborated with EAL Korean Studies Librarian, Ms Hyokyoung Yi, during her visit. The

research is on the current usage of LCSH -- its benefits and the shortcomings. A paper has been developed from the research and will be presented by Dr. Chung and Ms Yi at the annual conference of the American Library Association in June 2010.



Dr. Chung (3rd from right) with EAL staff

**The EAL presented** at the UW Libraries Career Fair targeted at students who may be interested in working at the libraries on November 3, 2009. All EAL staff participated in the event by staffing the EAL table at the Career Fair and introducing what we do at the EAL to interested students.



EAL staff and students for career fair.

(ZS)

## Exhibits

**Exhibit highlighting cultural exchanges**, especially the exchange of books between the U.S. and China was installed at the East Asia Library, in conjunction with the celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Normalization of US-China

diplomatic relations. The exhibit displayed materials received under the "Window to China" Program. This program is initiated and implemented by the Chinese State Council Information Office and the National Library of China. Since 2006, the East Asia Library has received more than 5,000 books from this program.

(MM)

## Library Instruction and Guides

**Korean Studies Librarian**, Hyokyoung Yi, presented a library instruction session at the graduate class of Survey of Korean Society (SISEA 584). At this session, Hyokyoung introduced Korean electronic resources and recently developed Korean Subject Guides to the students. These resources have also been made available on the Libraries website at <http://guides.lib.washington.edu/korea>.

(HY)

**CJK LibGuides** In the fall quarter of 2009, the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean studies librarians at the EAL completed the installation of the new research guides on the respective areas studies using the new software of LibGuide, provided by UWLibraries to replace the old subject guides. This new feature provides a powerful media for librarians to teach library users to access library resources effectively. These new subject guides can be found at the following websites respectively: <http://guides.lib.washington.edu/content.php?mode=preview&pid=55577&sid=406857>

<http://guides.lib.washington.edu/content.php?pid=68575&sid=506951>

<http://guides.lib.washington.edu/korea>

(zs)

## Library Instruction and Guides

## 文淵閣四庫全書 *Wenyuange Siku quanshu*



The internet version of *Wenyuange Siku Quanshu* is now available for the UW users on campus. Currently, off-campus access is not available. One of the public workstations in the East Asia Library Reading-room has been installed with the software. Both installation instructions and user's guide are available in the Chinese studies subject

guide: <http://guides.lib.washington.edu/content.php?pid=55577&sid=406861>. Since EAL only subscribes to a single user account, we ask users to log out after each use. Please direct any questions to [Michael Meng](#), Chinese Studies Librarian. (MM)



The electronic version of *四部叢刊 Sibu Congkan* is available to UW Users. This fully searchable collection includes the authoritative editions of the 504 original and historical monographs (3,134 volumes) published by the Commercial Press 商務印書館 1919-1936. Holdings span the Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing Dynasties including early manuscripts and rare prints. The electronic edition is based on the Shanghai Hanfen Lou version 上海函芬樓景印本 held by Peking University Library's Rare Books Collection. With the full coverage of the three series published in 1922, 1932, and 1936, the set includes 232,478 pages and 90 million characters. Each series is arranged in the traditional classifications of 經, 史, 子, 集. The database provides both the image mode and text

mode for browsing. The user's guide is available in the Chinese studies subject guide:

<http://guides.lib.washington.edu/content.php?pid=55577&sid=406861>. Since we only subscribe to a single user account, we ask users to log out (退出登陆) after each use. Please direct any questions to [Michael Meng](#), Chinese Studies Librarian. (MM)

### Major Acquisitions of Print Materials

- 中国大百科全书 *Zhongguo da bai ke quan shu*, 2nd ed. (32 vols)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b5981377~S6>

- 宋画全集 *Song hua quan ji*, Vol.6 (6 pieces)-Vol.7 (2 vols)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6209256~S6>

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6270188~S6>

- 國家圖書館藏民國軍事檔案文獻初編 *Guo Jia Tu Shu Guan cang Minguo*

*jun shi dang an wen xian chu bian* (12 vols.)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6111923~S6>

- 晚清國際會議檔案 *Wan Qing guo ji hui yi dang an* (10 vols.)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6075339~S6>

(MM)

- *Yi Sang chŏnjip* 이상전집/ *Kwon Yŏng-min yŏkkŭm* (4 vols.)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6167610~S6>

The most complete collection of the famous Korean author, Yi Sang (1910-1937), from the colonial period; annotated by the renowned scholar, Prof. Kwon Young-min from Seoul National University.

- *Hanguk munhwa taesajon* 한국문화대사전 (10 vols.)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6109893~S6>

An encyclopedia on Korean culture.

- *Tongyanghak kwallyon taesajon ohui saegin chongnam* 동양학관련대사전어휘색인총람 (10 vols.)

<http://catalog.lib.washington.edu/record=b6109892~S6>

A comprehensive glossary dictionary for Chinese words shared in East Asia compiled from major glossaries of Japanese and Chinese dictionaries, such as the Japanese *Kan-Wa daijiten* 漢和大辭典, Taiwan's *Zhong wen da ci dian* 中文大辭典 and China's *Han yu da ci dian* 漢語大詞典. (HY)

## Grants and Gifts

**EAL received \$14,400** from the FY 2009 NRC Non-Competing Continuation Budget to acquire Chinese and Korean language electronic databases and resources. The titles acquired are core collections in classic and contemporary studies of China and Korea spanning a wide range of subject areas. These databases include back issues of electronic journals, government publications, archival materials, electronic books. Some of the titles acquired are the Digital *Sibu Congkan* and a digital collection of three Korean newspapers (Minjung Sinmun, Haebang Sinmun, and Uri Sinmun <http://denali.lib.washington.edu/record=b6332340>) published by Koreans in Japan (1946-55).

(ZS)

**East Asia Library received 154 volumes of Korean books** donated from the Korea Publisher's Association, thanks to the arrangement and assistance of the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Seattle. The books are mostly new publications focusing on Korean history and language including dictionaries and language textbooks. (HY)

**EAL received a grant \$5,800** from the Korea Foundation to support the acquisition of electronic databases in Korean Studies. The grant was to

help the increased subscription costs for electronic resources in Korean Studies. With this grant, our library was able to secure the access to major electronic journal databases including KISS and DBpia. (HY)

**East Asia Library received several gifts** of Chinese books in the Fall Quarter of 2009. They are the eighty-two titles in 114 volumes from the Institute of Chinese Literature and Philosophy, Academia Sinica, which are publications by the Institute; the thirty-two titles in forty-one volumes through the exchange program with Kuo Ting-yee Library of Modern Chinese History Institute, Academia Sinica, which includes a valuable reprint set of late Qing *Shangwu guanbao* 商務官報 (Apr. 28, 1906 - Dec. 26 1910) and several dissertations on the Republican Era; and thirty titles in thirty-five volumes from the National Cheng-chi University Libraries in Taipei, Taiwan, which are publications of the Institute of International Relations of National Cheng-chi University (國立政治大學國際關係研究中心). EAL also received from Professor William Lavelly a donation of 170 titles in 208 volumes of Chinese books in the areas of social sciences, ethnic studies, and back issues of Chinese yearbooks. (MM)

## Technical Processing

**The EAL cataloging retrospective conversion** project, i.e. cataloging of the Pre-cat backlog has made significant progress. With the able management of Chinese Studies Librarian and Korean Studies Librarian, we have completed Phase I of the project, i.e. for Korean language, materials the screening and copy-cataloging of books with existing cataloging records. The Chinese pre-cat backlog is the largest and most complex among the three language collections. We anticipate completing Phase I for the Chinese pre-cat project in the summer of 2010. More Chinese traditional thread-bound books have been processed. Thanks especially to Professor David Knachtges's advice, the Chinese Studies Librarian has been able to identify some rare Ming, Qing, and early Republican editions from Helmut Wilhelm collection. With the appointment of Ms Saeko Suzuki as the Tateuchi Japanese Cataloger, we

anticipate major progress with the Japanese pre-catalog project in the coming two years.

(ZS)

## Librarian Professional Activities and Staff News

**Saeko Suzuki** joined EAL as the Tateuchi Japanese Cataloger on January 1, 2010. She will be working on the two-year cataloging retrospective conversion project of Japanese materials, generously funded by the Tateuchi Foundation.



Saeko Suzuki in her office.

Ms. Suzuki has an MLS degree from Southern Connecticut State University and a Graduate Diploma of Advanced Study in Information Studies focusing on Archives and Records Management from the University of Toronto. She received her first BA from Kokugakuin University (Tokyo, Japan) majoring in Japanese Religious Studies and her second BA from State University of New York Purchase College majoring in Art History.

Ms. Suzuki has worked in various library and related positions. She started as a cataloger and reference librarian in Japan Maritime Research Institute in Tokyo, Japan in the 1980s, and worked in different libraries and museums in the 1990s. Between 2003 and 2004, she was the Japanese Rare Book Project librarian at Yale University. Between 2004 and 2009, she worked remotely as the Database Content Analyst and Indexer with Greenwood Publishing Group in Westport, Connecticut, U.S.A., as well as the archivist with Japanese Canadian Cultural Center in Toronto. Ms. Saeko Suzuki can be reached at

the East Asia Library by phone or email at: 206-543-6211; [saekos@uw.edu](mailto:saekos@uw.edu).  
(ZS)

## EAL Participation in “Adopt-A-Family”

Each year during the holiday season, the UW Libraries sponsors the “Adopt-A-Family” working with YWCA. Holiday wish lists from needing families are provided. Library staff and units can adopt a family and shop for their wish lists. Purchased gifts are wrapped and sent to YWCA to ship to the families. This year, EAL staff members served as coordinators for the event. Saori Tachibana organized and coordinated the UW Libraries-wide “Adopt-A-Family” event, and also coordinated the EAL efforts. In doing this, she demonstrated outstanding leadership and dedication. As a unit, EAL staff collectively adopted one family and shared our holiday joy and love with them.

(zs)

## EAL Staff Celebrates Their Anniversaries at the EAL

On May 1, 2009, Heijia Ryoo celebrated her 5th anniversary at the EAL. On July, 2009, Keiko Yokota-Carter celebrated her 10th anniversary. On July 19, 2009, Saori Tachibana celebrated her 5th anniversary. On February 1, 2010, Eddy Harrison celebrated his 15th anniversary. Through the years of their services, our staff members have contributed significantly to the development of this wonderful East Asia Library. Congratulations!



Eddy Harrison (15th Anniversary); Saori (5th Anniversary); Keiko (10th Anniversary); Heijia Ryoo (5th Anniversary)

**Michael Meng** took his first acquisition trip to Taiwan and China from May 20 to June 9, 2009. He visited several bookstores and vendors while in Taiwan and China, and made an on-site purchase of 105 titles of Chinese books in the areas of Chinese literature, linguistics, philology, Song history, Qing history, and social sciences. On this trip, Michael also arranged several book gifts and exchanges with libraries in Taiwan.

**Michael Meng** gave a presentation entitled “Chinese Materials at the University of Washington Libraries” at National Central Library, Taipei, Taiwan, on May 28, 2009, during his acquisition trip to Taiwan. He also gave a presentation entitled “Chinese Rare Books Collection at the University of Washington Libraries: History and Dilemma” at the Center for Ancient Chinese Classics and Archives at Peking University in China, on June 8, 2009 during his acquisition trip.

**Michael Meng** attended the “Workshop for Professional Librarians from Abroad: Sinological Resources and Services” sponsored by Taiwan’s National Central Library in Taipei, October 11 - 19, 2009.

**Hyokyoung Yi** was invited as a guest speaker to talk about the academic librarianship and its future in North America at the ceremony of the 50th anniversary of Library and Information Sciences at Ewha Womans University in Korea, on November 6, 2009. Hyokyoung was an alumna of Ewha Womans University.

**Hyokyoung Yi** won the award for her essay written in the Korean language in the best short essay contest of Korean immigrants in the Seattle area. The award ceremony was held on February 6th, 2010. Hyokyoung’s award-winning essay will be published in the 3rd volume of *Siaetul munhak* (The Seattle Literature) in late 2010.



At the Award Ceremony, Feb. 6, 2010.

**Hyokyoung Yi** attended the First Kyujanggak Workshop for Korean Studies Librarian from Overseas held at the Kyujanggak Institute for Korean Studies at Seoul National University in Korea, August 24 – 28, 2009.



**Keiko Yokota-Carter** participated in the Library Forum in Yokohama, Japan, November 9, 2009, during her acquisition trip to Japan, November, 2009.

**Keiko Yokota-Carter** served the position of Chair of the North America Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) and co-chair of the Third Decade Conference of the NCC to be held in Philadelphia on March 22, and 23, 2010.

**Zhijia Shen** attended the Centennial Celebration of the National Library of China in Beijing, on behalf of the University Libraries, and the Symposium on “International Progress of Libraries: Global Knowledge Sharing” on September 8-11, 2009.

**Zhijia Shen** Published an invited article entitled “State of the Field of Chinese Studies Librarianship” as part of the series on East Asian librarianship in *Journal of East Asian Libraries*, No. 149, October 2009. She also contributed a volume entitled ““Speaking out” Remarks and Important Editorials and Articles around the Anti-Rightist Movement” to the *Anti-Rightist Movement Database*, ed. Yongyi Song and published by Chinese University of Hong Kong Press, 2010. This is a collection of primary sources on the anti-rightist movement in the first two decades of the People’s Republic of China.