



# EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



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## October 7, 2008

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### To East Asian Studies Faculty and Students,

As we start the new academic year, the staff at the East Asian Library extends warm welcome to our faculty, staff, and students of East Asian studies. We look forward to working with you to make you experience at your East Asia Library most rewarding and productive. We are here to create a user-friendly learning and research environment in which you can carry out your intellectual and academic adventures.

The East Asia Library has had a very busy summer. We successfully implemented the Summer Institute on Chinese Studies Librarianship in the Electronic Environment. Thirty-seven Chinese studies librarians from thirty leading university libraries

in North America participated in the training. Sixteen senior librarians and library school faculty members from Mainland China, Taiwan, and the United States taught at the institute.

A two-day pre-conference symposium on Chinese electronic publishing and database standards was held, which involved twenty directors of major East Asian libraries and specialists of electronic resources as speakers. This is a great collaboration, with the



Participants of the pre-conference symposium, UW Seattle, July 20, 2008

strong support and participation of the administrations, librarians, and faculty of the University Libraries, the Information School, and the Jackson School for International Studies. The success of the summer institute will bring significant impact on the field of Chinese studies librarianship, as well as other area studies librarianship by taking on the issue of training to bring our librarians up to speed with the rapid development of information technology to meet the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century library.



At the Graduation Ceremony of the Summer Institute, UW Seattle, August 1, 2008

In addition to this major project, during the summer, we have also made significant progress in building collections, developing electronic resources, and enhancing access to our valuable collections. The reports and articles in this issue update you about the activities and progress of your East Asia Library in the spring and summer quarters.

The year of 2008/2009 will be an exciting year. The Jackson School of International Studies will celebrate its Centennial, and the university also will celebrate the centennial of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition. There will be many events and activities adding to the richness of UW campus life. The East Asia Library will be part of the celebration. We look forward to a wonderful year and wish you great success in your academic endeavors.

## East Asia Library Launches Cataloging Retrospective Conversion Project

*By Zhijia Shen*

In the Spring of 2008, the East Asia Library launched the retrospective conversion project to tackle its large cataloging backlog of more than sixty thousand titles accumulated over the past several decades. This cataloging backlog includes mostly the so called “pre-cat” books (books that are listed only by author and title without cataloging in our online database), books purchased or donated to the EAL that are in boxes or storage without any processing, and books shelved in our public stacks without online cataloging records. In this large cataloging backlog, there are many valuable and rare materials. Completion of this project will bring these materials out of boxes and storage to be integrated into our collections for effective access.

The retrospective conversion project involves two phases: 1) screening/weeding and copy cataloging; 2) original cataloging. Phase one will cover majority of the backlog titles, leaving a smaller number of books that have no cataloging records in the national database of OCLC, from which we can derive a copy.

To eliminate this large cataloging backlog, we will need significant additional funding for staff for cataloging, marking, shelving, and preservation. EAL has received \$35,200 from the Libraries Allen Fund for hourly student support. EAL has also received from the Tateuchi Foundation a generous gift in the amount of \$120,000 over two years to hire a professional Japanese cataloger to carry out original cataloging of the Japanese titles in the backlog. A search advisory committee has been formed for this position. Keiko Yokota-Carter, our Japanese studies librarian, is chairing the committee.

## EALCollections & Their Users

Collection is the essence of a library regardless what formats the collection takes: print, electronic, or other. Good understanding of how patrons use the library guides collection development and helps libraries build the character of their collections. The East Asia Library at UW has one of the finest collections of its kind and enjoys a long and fascinating history, yielding many interesting stories of how users interact with its collections. In this column, we tell such stories and anecdotes. In this issue, the column features two stories of our users and their experience.

Since its launching, the project has made significant progress. Michael Meng, Chinese studies librarian, has assumed part of cataloging responsibility to lead the conversion project of Chinese materials. In May 2008, Chinese cataloging statistics reached 1,622 titles and 1,871 volumes, comparing to 216 title and 249 volumes in the same month last year, with many of the titles being conversion materials. The successful experience of the Chinese conversion has provided the EAL with a model for the project. In the summer of 2008, we started phase one of the project for Korean materials.

In addition to cataloging, the retrospective conversion project touches upon many aspects of library technical operations. More students have been and will be recruited and trained for copy cataloging. It requires staff time to provide training and supervision. Increased cataloging will require increased support in marking, binding, shelving, gift and exchange to handle duplicates, and rare book collections that will grow as a result of the project. All requires close coordination and cooperation among staff and different units within EAL and between EAL and other departments in the University Libraries.

While proactively seeking funding, EAL will also take up the challenge and look internally to identify staffing resources and creative workflow to enhance productivity. We will look at our organizational structure to optimize the existing staff skills and expertise. We also must be creative in identifying vendor services and outsourcing possibilities that are economically viable and cost-effective so that staff time can be best used for work that must be done in-house.

This is a significant project and its completion will make our unique and invaluable collections available not only to our faculty and students but also to other users from all over the world via inter-library loan services.

## Hu Zhengyan's Famous Studio

*By Richard Carkeek*

Tom Ebrey, a UW retired Biology Professor, is among the frequent users of our East Asia Library. In the past year, Tom has spent numerous hours, not researching about bibliography, but working diligently his way through many of our art reference books about plates from the *Treatise of Ten Bamboo Studio Collection of Painting and Calligraphy*, a book of wood block prints by Hu Zhengyan, (ca. 1582-a. 1672). This is, according to Professor Ebrey, among the earliest and finest examples of color wood block printing ever published. His research on this art book started at our East Asia library, which owns an later edition of the *Collection of Decorated Writing Paper from the Ten Bamboo Studio* 十竹齋箋譜 (NE1183 .H78) by the same author. The related works in the collection of the East Asia Library helped him frame his research questions and begin the investigation. In addition to our library, he visited many libraries around the world to compare examples of the earliest texts.

Tom's research led to a paper of over sixty pages to be published in the *East Asian Library Journal*. In this article, he examined old book seller's lists,

and compared the prefatory and editorial signatures for dozens of print editions from libraries and museums around the world, from which he built a comprehensive bibliography for these folio art books. More importantly, his study helps place more accurately the publication dates for editions collected by book scholars.

Professor Tom Ebrey has kindly advanced to us his article for this newsletter, entitled "The Editions, Superstates, and States of the Ten Bamboo Studio Collection of Painting and Calligraphy." It is gratifying for us library staff to work with users like Professor Ebrey and to share the fascinating stories about their research.

## **A Geography Student's Research Experience about Xinjiang**

*By Richard Carkeek*

Astrid Cerny  
Translator at Kalespress  
Graduate Student in Dept. of Geography at  
University of Washington  
recipient for 2005-06

Ms. Astrid Cerny is a translator and graduate student of Geography at University of Washington. She was also a recipient of the Fullbright-Hays Foundation Grant in 2005-2006. Ms. Cerny's constant use of our Statistical Yearbooks and Census abstracts made her a familiar face in the East Asia Library. Even with the explosion of information provided online, it seemed almost inevitable that some detailed information could only be found scattered across armloads of print sources.

Impressive and challenging, is how I would have to describe working with the East Asia Library's vast collection of year books and Statistical Abstracts. Shifting, shelving retrieving these is a great labor. So I am delighted whenever Scholars share with me about their research experiences and successes with our collections. Earlier this year Astrid shared with me a little of her experiences

while researching as a Geographer specializing in ethnic and environmental issues in the Xinjiang Autonomous Region of China. She wrote:

*I work on environmental and ethnic issues in China's western province of Xinjiang. This area is notoriously paranoid when it comes to the free flow of information. A few years ago, when I was preparing to go for dissertation fieldwork, I was delighted to find several small handbooks in the East Asia library that helped me learn about administrative boundaries, postal codes and other bureaucratic institutions in the province. I deepened my knowledge through the extensive collection of atlases related to China's environment and population. However, as the librarians who have so capably assisted me over the years know, the main source of satisfaction and information for me has been the provincial statistical yearbooks. I was delighted to find that of all the provinces they could have carried, the East Asia library carried a good run of the Xinjiang yearbooks. Working in collaboration with the interim head librarian, we were able to fill the gaps in the collection, and in connection with the CD-ROM versions, the East Asia library now has a solid set of statistical yearbooks for one of China's up-and-coming regions of geopolitical importance. While I was doing my fieldwork in China, some of my requests for information, in particular for economic and population data were turned down by the relevant officials. They were most astonished when I told them, "that's okay, I'm sure I can get the numbers when I go back to my university library. We have all your yearbooks."*

## REPORTS

### Events and Outreach

#### **“Cutting Ribbons for the Beijing Olympics: Paper-cuts of Chinese Folk Sports”**

Between June 5 and August 5, in collaboration with the Consulate General of the People's Republic of China, the East Asia Library installed an exhibit in Suzzallo Library on Chinese paper cutting with the theme on Chinese folk sports and the Beijing Olympics. An opening ceremony hosted by the Provost's Office and the University Libraries was held on June 5, 2008. This is the first collaboration between UW Libraries and the Chinese consulate general. It was a good beginning. We hope more collaboration will take place in the future to help enhance the collections, services, and cultural outreach of our East Asia Library.



Cutting ribbons for the exhibit in Suzzallo Library, June 5, 2008

#### **The Visit of Chinese Scholars from the Center for Ancient Chinese Classics and Archives of Peking University**

On July 7, 2008, scholars from the Center for Ancient Chinese Classics and Archives of Peking University (北京大学中国古文献研究中心) visited the East Asia Library. The delegation was led by

Professor An Pingqiu (安平秋), Professor of Department of Chinese Language & Literature and Director of the Center. Professor An is a prominent scholar of *Shiji* (史记), who also chairs the National Commission for Classics Editing & Research by Institutions of Higher Learning, Ministry of Education (教育部全国高校古籍整理研究工作委员会).

Other members from Peking University's Department of Chinese Language & Literature included Professors Cao Yibing (曹亦冰), Yang Haizheng (杨海峥), Gu Yongxin (顾永新), and Lu Wei (卢伟). Prior to arriving at UW, the group visited the East Asian libraries at Harvard-Yenching, Yale, Princeton, Columbia, and UC-Berkeley. They are working on a research project for surveying and compiling a list of Chinese rare books printed during Song and Yuan Dynasties held by major East Asian libraries in North America.

According to Professor An, there are more than 115 titles of Song (960-1279) and Yuan (1260-1368) rare books held by U.S. East Asian libraries. UC-Berkeley has the most with 43 titles. The group met with Zhijia Shen, Director of EAL, and Michael Meng, Chinese Studies Librarian, about possibilities of collaboration between the Center and UW EAL on Chinese rare books. Our visitors were impressed with EAL holdings of Chinese rare books from the Ming period (1368-1644), J. F. Rock Collection, and Qian Qianyi Collection. (MM)

#### **Visitor from the Seoul National University Library**

Ms. Hyun-mi Kim, the Librarian at the Seoul National University Library, paid a visit to the East Asia Library during her 6-month stay as a visiting librarian at the Asian Library of the University of British Columbia, Canada. She spent her day here at the East Asia library on discussions with Zhijia

Shen and Hyokyoung Yi, on the possibilities for future cooperations between our two libraries. With the assistance from the head of the Special Collection, she was given a complete tour of the Special Collections at the University of Washington Libraries. (HY)

## New Electronic Resources

### Free Trial Services on Korean Electronic Resources

The East Asia Library has free trial services for two Korean electronic databases; RISS International and eKorean Studies. RISS International, developed by KERIS (Korean Education & Research Information Services), provides single gateway to full-text of journal articles, theses and dissertations of Korea through a union catalog with nearly eight million holdings from over 560 university libraries in South Korea. <http://intl.riss4u.net/index.jsp>

Another trial service offered to the faculty and students at University of Washington is eKorean Studies at [http://www.e-koreanstudies.com/ksdb\\_index.aspx](http://www.e-koreanstudies.com/ksdb_index.aspx).

This is an integrated and comprehensive service product of a consortium of six major database vendors in Korean studies. This site offers one stop search engine for most of electronic databases we currently subscribe individually including Dbpia and KISS electronic journal package databases. This portal is designed to serve scholars in North America. Both trial services are available throughout the year of 2008. (HY)

### Major electronic resources about Colonial Korea have been added to the collection

Thanks to the funding from the Academy of Korean Studies major electronic resources are added to the EAL collection:

Choson haengjong (朝鮮行政 28 v.)

[http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB\\_Search/Series\\_Search.asp?s\\_code=0008](http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB_Search/Series_Search.asp?s_code=0008)

This set is the reproduction of originally published during Japanese colonial period monthly by the Japanese Local Government (Teikoku Chiho Gyosei Gakkai) on the issues about Korea.

Hanguk kundae chapchison (한국근대잡지선 51 v.)

[http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB\\_Search/Series\\_Search.asp?s\\_code=0014](http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB_Search/Series_Search.asp?s_code=0014)

A collection of periodicals during Colonial period with literary publications by Korean and Japanese authors.

Han-il hoedam chnggukwon kwallyon munso

(韓·日會談請求權關聯文書 94 v.)

[http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB\\_Search/Series\\_Search.asp?s\\_code=0010](http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB_Search/Series_Search.asp?s_code=0010)

This set provides documents and related reports about colonial damage commission claim files from Korea and Japan Talks since 1952.

(HY)

### Access to Taiwan's *Scripta Sinica* Available Now to UW Users

In a joint effort with twenty other East Asian libraries in North America, UW East Asia Library has been granted the access to Scripta Sinica (漢籍電子文獻資料庫) for five years starting September 2008. The database maintained by the Institute of History and Philology of Academia Sincia in Taiwan (中央研究院歷史語言研究所) consists of a large collection of searchable and full-text databases covering the breadth of Chinese history and culture. The database includes more than 460 titles and 358,000,000 characters of important Chinese classics, especially those related to Chinese history. Users can search UW online catalog under "Han ji dian zi wen xian zi liao ku" or "Scripta Sinica" to access. After getting in the web link <http://140.109.138.249/ihp/hanji.htm>, you need to click on "authorized access" (授權使用). The interface is only available in traditional Chinese.

User's guide (使用説明) is available on upper-right corner of the main page. If you need any assistance, please contact [Michael Meng](#). (MM)

### **EAL Acquired the Chinese Century Journal Project (CJP) Database**

The acquisition of CJP database has extended the UW access of Chinese Academic Journals (CAJ) from present back to the first issues of all CAJ journals. Before the acquisition of CJP, UW access to CAJ only covers up to 1994. The database is using a single powerful search platform, allowing users to access from all locations. CAJ is provided by the prestigious Tsinghua University's China Academic Journal Electronic Publishing House in the People's Republic of China. After you login as a UW user, you could get the access through <http://china.eastview.com/kns50/>. You can also access it through UW Libraries Online catalog by a title search of "CAJ" (MM)

[KIKUZO Visual II Asahi shinbun newspaper](#) online database (UW restricted) is available through the UW Library catalog. (KYC)

### **Library Instruction and Technical Processing**

#### **"Information Literacy for Japanese Resources"**

This Fall Quarter, Keiko Yokota-Carter, Japanese Librarian, will once again offer the credit class "Information Literacy for Japanese Resources" SISEA490B. (KYC)

#### **Chinese Collection Pre-cat Project**

As part of the EAL pre-cat retrospective conversion project, the Chinese collection has made significant progress with processing pre-cat backlogs accumulated from the past decades. Since April

2008, more than 5,250 titles (6,000 volumes) have been processed. The users may notice that for the first time in decades, many pre-1990s materials have recently become available. Most of the newly cataloged older materials will be shelved in East Asia Library Auxiliary Stacks in Kane Hall. (MM)

#### **Palais Project Update**

The cataloging project of the late James B. Palais Collection is making a good progress and is anticipated to complete by the end of 2008 as planned. The unique holdings from the Palais collection have been added to stacks of East Asia Library and Suzzallo/Allen Library based on the languages of the materials creating nearly 1,000 new records into the Library catalog. During the summer of 2008, we processed the serials volumes as well as Chinese and Japanese language materials from the Palais collection. (HY)

### **Gifts and Grants**

**EAL Receives a gift of \$120k over two years from the [Tateuchi Foundation](#)** for a cataloger position designated for the Japanese cataloging retrospective conversion project. Acknowledging the core value of the East Asia Library is to provide access to Asian language materials and information and the EAL needs for support in providing such access to its rich collections, the Tateuchi Foundation has generously granted this timely gift to the East Asia Library in support of its effort to eliminate the decades-old large cataloging backlog. The Tateuchi Foundation has been a long-time supporter of the University of Washington. Its vision about the importance of the East Asia Library in bridging cultures and its generous gift will benefit out users significantly and have a profound impact on their research, teaching, and understanding about East Asia. (zs)

### **Allen Endowment Awarded \$21,650 for Acquisition of Chinese Century Journals Project Database**

Chinese collection received full funding in the amount of \$21,650 from the UW Libraries Allen Endowment to purchase Chinese Century Journals Project (CJP) database, which provides the back files of China Academic Journals (CAJ) database mostly up to the first issues of each journal. (MM)

### **East Asia Library Received Exchange Materials from Kuo Ting-ye Library of Modern Chinese History Institute, Academia Sinica, Taiwan**

In May, 2008, the Chinese Collection received first shipment of materials from Kuo Ting-ye Library of Modern Chinese History Institute, Academia Sinica (中央研究院近代史研究所郭廷以圖書館). The shipment included 68 titles and 85 volumes. Kuo Ting-ye Library houses one of the premium collections of Chinese local gazetteers, history of Chinese Communist Party, and the Modern Chinese Customs archives. In exchange, East Asia Library will send the University of Washington Press materials and Chinese duplicate copies to Kuo Ting-ye Library. We hope to establish a long-term exchange relationship with Kuo Ting-ye Library. (MM)

### **Small Allen Endowment Awarded \$5,000 to Acquire Chinese Archaeology Materials**

The Chinese Collection received another funding support of \$5,000 from the UW Libraries Allen Endowment for purchasing materials on Chinese archaeology. The funding will be used mainly to acquire approximately 100 essential titles of archaeological excavation reports published during the past fifteen years in China. (MM)

### **Korean Diaspora material --Japan-Korean joint project**

Japanese and Korean collections jointly received \$3,955 from the Allen Endowment for Collection to acquire the Korean Diaspora materials in Japanese language. (HY & KYC)

### **Funding from the Academy of Korean Studies**

With tight monograph funding in the fiscal year (2007-08) due to soaring serial expenses, Korean collection has requested additional funding from the Academy of Korean Studies and received \$23,166 for materials in various subject areas including under-developed North Korean materials. The funding was used to acquire newer publications that the library otherwise couldn't afford with limited funding. Some major electronic resources purchased with the funding include the following titles:

Choson haengjong (朝鮮行政 28 v.)

[http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB\\_Search/Series\\_Search.asp?s\\_code=0008](http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB_Search/Series_Search.asp?s_code=0008)

Hanguk kundae chapchison (한국근대잡지선 51 v.)

[http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB\\_Search/Series\\_Search.asp?s\\_code=0014](http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB_Search/Series_Search.asp?s_code=0014)

Han-il hoedam chnggukwon kwallyon munso

(韓・日會談請求權關聯文書94v.)

[http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB\\_Search/Series\\_Search.asp?s\\_code=0010](http://ebook.kstudy.com/EB_Search/Series_Search.asp?s_code=0010)

(HY)

## **Librarian Professional Activities and Staff News**

### **Touring the State of Washington**

*By Michael Meng*

As the new Chinese Studies Librarian, I joined thirty-one other new UW faculty members and librarians on a five-day bus tour of Washington

State. From June 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, the group traveled to more than two dozens of places in the state, including Port Tacoma, Mount St. Helens, Moses Lake, Grand Coulee Dam, North Cascades, and Boeing plant in Everett. The group also met and talked to many people with very different background in the state, including park rangers, UW researchers on Toppenish Creek restoration project, tribal leaders of Native American reservation, educators, community leaders, local business people, farmers, and incoming UW students.



Migrant workers housing project called La Esperanza—photo by Michael Meng

The trip has provided us a valuable opportunity to learn how the State of Washington is closely connected with the global economy, especially with vibrant East Asian economies. For example, we saw the overwhelming number of cargos and cars were just imported from Japan, Taiwan, and South Korea. At Boeing, the assembly lines crowded with planes ordered by East Asian carriers. A wheat farmer near Moses Lake told our group that more than 85% of wheat of the state was exported to East Asia for making noodles. The trip was very helpful to me as a librarian to better understand the history, geography, economics, and ethnicity of Washington, as well as how the University and our users are related to the life of the state. More detailed information about the tour is available at: <http://depts.washington.edu/fldtour/wordpress/> (MM)

**Zhijia Shen** has been elected vice president and president-elect (2008-2010) for the term as president of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) in 2010-2011. She continues to serve as a member on the Executive Board of CALA.

**Keiko Yokota-Carter** has been elected Chair of the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) for the term of 2010-2013. She is serving as the NCC Chair-elect between September 2008 and December 2009.

**Hyokyoung Yi**, the Korean Studies Librarian, will serve on the Committee on Korean Materials of the Council of East Asia Libraries (CEAL) for 2008-2011. She has chaired the Committee from 2002-2005 and worked as a member in 1999-2002.

**Michael Meng** has been appointed to serve as a member on the CEAL Committee on Chinese Materials, 2008-2011.

**Anne Moreau** resigned her position as Administrative Assistant as of August 29, 2008. She will spend more time to study the Chinese language and travel internationally.

**Yihui Hendryx** resigned from her library specialist I position in binding and marking as of June 13, 2008 for family reallocation.