

## Yeen-mei Wu (吳燕美)

Yeen-mei Wu started working at the Far Eastern Library (FEL) in October of 1969 as the librarian in charge of the Chinese collection. She retired as Chinese Studies Librarian at the East Asia Library (EAL) on August 1, 2001, after nearly 32 years of service.



*Yeen-mei Wu, 1992*

After the normalization of relations between the United States and the People's Republic of China, Yeen-mei made frequent trips to China, and was instrumental in fostering lasting relationships between the FEL/EAL and Chinese book dealers, institutions and foundations. Following the departure of Karl Lo in 1990, Yeen-mei was responsible for EAL's Chinese database projects (including the ground-breaking "Twenty-Five Dynastic Histories" database), becoming an expert in this developing area.

Yeen-mei was born in Taiwan, one of six siblings. During her childhood, she lived for some time in Taiwan, Japan, Hong Kong, Beijing, and Nanjing. As a young woman she came to the U.S. and lived in the San Francisco Bay Area for a few years before being admitted to the University of California Berkeley in 1960. As a student there, she worked part-time in several campus libraries, including the East Asian Library, the library for the School of Librarianship, and the Center for Chinese Studies Library. After graduating, she worked as a librarian at the Center for Chinese Studies Library for over six years.