

From the East Asia Library

October 10, 2007

by Zhijia Shen

Dear East Asia Studies Faculty and Students:

Welcome back to the new Academic year!

We are into the third week of the new academic year, and the East Asia Library has had its share of the excitement of the beginning new school year. Being one of the busy spots on campus, the EAL Beckman Reading Room was abuzz with class orientations, students searching the databases and digging into piles of reference materials for their class assignments, and many other activities. There were a large number of print materials of the most traditional style scattered on top of the Reading Room tables, while the Access Plus computers were fully occupied.... What a scene of academia and learning!



In the Beckman Reading Room Dan McCloy, Lin Chen, and Chad Garcia are working on class assignments for CHIN 301, CHIN 461, and CHIN 599. (photograph by Yi-hui Hendryx).

To get ready for the new school year, the East Asia librarians and staff worked hard during the summer. Right before school started, we joined efforts with other international studies librarians and offered an orientation to the Jackson school graduate students. Five students in Chinese studies, five in Japan studies, and eight in Korean studies came to the orientation and spent time with their respective subject librarians and toured the EAL. We also are aware that many students in other departments, such as comparative literature, did not receive this orientation. Throughout the fall quarter, EAL CJK (Chinese, Japanese, Korean Studies) librarians will make themselves available for students to make appointments for individual instruction or orientation. We encourage faculty to talk to your subject librarians for class presentations on library resources or to contact the director of the EAL for a group orientation to the library at any time during the school year.

New Electronic Resources Added to the Collections

Japanese e-resources

More Japanese academic journals have become available online. Journals in full-text or table of contents for many of "Daigaku kiyo" from Japanese universities as well as a few other academic journals are accessible through the UW Libraries catalog.

"CiNii" (Citation index of National Institute of Informatics, Japan) has added more full-text articles of academic journals: <http://ci.nii.ac.jp/> It is advisable to bookmark this site and search the journals before requesting articles through interlibrary loan.

"Asahi shinbun archives" (Dec. 1, 1926–Dec. 31, 1945) and "Taiyo soumokuroku index" on CD-ROM provide easier searching of the indexes. Both of these resources are now accessible on the designated PC in the East Asia Library. Please ask the library staff for assistance in locating it. (KYC)

Korean e-resources

The digital collection of Korean materials from the exhibition "Between Liberation Space and Time of Need," on Korean literary materials published from 1945 to 1950s, is now available in an online format at <http://content.lib.washington.edu/koreanweb/>. The digitization of this important collection was funded by the Academy of Korean Studies and developed with assistance from the Digital Initiatives at the UW Libraries. This collection was displayed in the Allen Library lobby last year and the exhibit featured rare editions of literary works created during this joyful but chaotic time of Korean liberation. (HY)

Updates on the pay-per-view pilot project for Chinese electronic databases

As a pilot project, the EAL explored the possibilities of the pay-per-view approach to access some of the Chinese electronic databases. The original pilot was intended to provide faculty and graduate students with access cards purchased from China through a check-out system, which would allow each card to be individually loaned to a faculty member or graduate student. On her trip to China in April 2007, Zhijia Shen purchased access cards to four major Chinese database clusters, including e-books, for a very reasonable cost. The circulation model was set up and seemed feasible to implement; however, we have recently learned that the cards sold in China are intended for Chinese domestic users. Although there was no clear stipulation against it, their use outside of China was viewed as inappropriate. Some database providers are issuing regulations to limit such use. Given this background, the EAL has decided not to further pursue the pilot pay-per-view project to avoid any possible copyright disputes. (ZS)

Library Instruction

Korean romanization and other instruction classes

One of the most difficult romanization systems in the world might be a Korean romanization system. The McCune-Reischauer romanization system will be taught by the Korean Studies Librarian to help students search the library catalog for Korean materials. Other instruction such as classes on electronic resources and basic search skills will be offered regularly throughout the school year. Class schedules will be announced on the library's Korean studies page: <http://www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/korea/koreapg.html>. (HY)

Information literacy for Japanese resources

The course "Information Literacy for Japanese Resources" will be offered during the 2008 winter quarter by the Japanese Studies Librarian. Details will be announced later in the fall quarter. (KYC)

Gifts and Grants

Taiwan studies books from the Culture Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle

About 188 titles, including 267 volumes of books and 25 items of visual materials (DVDs and video cassettes) were given to the East Asia Library in August 2007. The total estimated market value of the donation is about US\$5,500 plus tax and shipping. The subjects covered by the materials include Taiwanese history, literature, language, biography, art, ethnology, anthropology, popular culture, and social issues. The donation includes three large sets: Taiwan Local Art History Series, Contemporary Taiwan Art Series, and Modern Taiwan Art Series. The gift provides us with materials that are not available through regular acquisitions and exchange channels. These valuable materials significantly strengthen the East Asia Library's existing collection for Taiwan studies. (MM)

Window to China books

As one of the fifteen recipient libraries in the United States, the EAL received 1,354 titles (about 2,000 volumes) in August 2007 from the Window to China book donation program through the National Library of China. These books fall within the humanities and social sciences subject areas. (MM)

Gift collection of the late Professor Palais

The Korean Studies Program has acquired the massive collection from the late Professor James Palais' personal library. The East Asia Library has received this gift, which includes nearly 10,000 volumes of books and journals on Korea and East Asia. With support from the Korea Studies Program, the library will begin processing the materials to add this valuable collection to the library, making it even richer in resources. (HY)

Grants for the Japanese collection

Our Japanese Studies Librarian has received a small Allen grant in the amount of \$5,000 from the UW Libraries for a preservation photocopy project for Japanese history materials published during the WW II period. A Metropolitan Center for Far Eastern Art grant of \$3,008.74 was also received for EAL acquisition of a "Japanese Buddhist art collection." (KYC)

Circulation

EAL Circulation has completed a shelf-ready project of the East Asia Library's reference section and has identified hundreds of titles or volumes to be added to the catalog for our collection. The reference collection is now in its best order in years. (RC)

Events and Outreach



Mr. Hirokazu Kosaka (left) and Professor Tetsuji Atsuji (right).
(photograph by Keiko Yokota-Carter.)

On Thursday, October 4, 2007, the East Asia Library successfully hosted a lecture on the evolution of the Japanese writing system titled "Forest of Words." The lecture, co-sponsored by the Japan Foundation, the Japanese American Cultural and Community Center, and Kyoto University, was held in the Odegaard Undergraduate Library. Professor Tetsuji Atsuji, a world-renowned scholar from Kyoto University, lectured on the history of Kanji. The lecture included a demonstration of calligraphy by Mr. Hirokazu Kosaka, Artistic Director of the Japanese American Cultural and

Community Center in Los Angeles, California. Sincere thanks to the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle for their strong support and long-term collaboration in many of our cultural projects. Alongside this lecture, the East Asia Library has also mounted an exhibit on calligraphy from Japan, Korea, and China.

The East Asia Library hosted a reception on September 20, 2007 to acknowledge the donation of over 230 books and visual materials on Taiwan studies from the Culture Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle. It was a very successful event. Betsy Wilson, Dean of the University Libraries, gave a thank-you speech at the reception. Professor Madeleine Dong, Chair of the China Studies Program, also spoke at the reception to thank our donor for this valuable gift. Many from the local Taiwanese community, especially those who contributed to the East Asia Library Taiwanese Endowment Fund, also attended the reception.

Many of our China studies faculty and students also attended. The Director of the Culture Center of Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Seattle expressed to Dr. Zhijia Shen his intention to make regular donations of books about Taiwan to the EAL in the future. The EAL staff had put on an exhibit of Taiwanese studies, which was the original inspiration for the donation.



Robert C.M. Chen, Director General of TECO in Seattle and Dean Betsy Wilson. (photograph by Wang YouChun).

Mr. Kwan Chan-ho, the Korean Consul General to Seattle, and Mr. Chong-Tae Kim, a journalist from the Korea Times, visited the library on July 25, 2007. They met with Hyokyoung Yi, Korean Studies Librarian; Professor Clark Sorensen; Young Sook Lim, Assistant Director of the Korea Program; and Zhijia Shen, Director of the EAL, to discuss the projects associated with the gift of James Palais' collection received by the EAL. Hyokyoung Yi provided them with a tour of the Palais collection in Suzzallo's sub-basement, where part of that collection is temporarily stored.

Librarian Professional Activities

The Korean Studies Librarian will attend the Third International Workshop for Overseas Korean Studies Librarians organized and sponsored by the Korea Foundation and the National Library of Korea. The workshop will be held in Seoul from October 14 through October 21.

Zhijia Shen will attend a conference on the history of East Asian collections in North America to be held at UC Berkeley to mark the opening of their C.V. Starr East Asian Library Chang-Lin Tien Center for East Asian Studies and the Pacific Rim Digital Library Alliance annual meeting also in Berkeley October 16 through 21, 2007. She will give a presentation on the history of the UW East Asia Library and a joint presentation with Dean Wilson entitled "From Local to Global" about the digital initiatives at the Libraries.

(HY) – Hyokyoung Yi
(KYC) – Keiko Yokota-Carter
(MM) – Michael Meng
(RC) – Richard Carkeek
(ZS) – Zhijia Shen