The spring quarter has brought exciting news about returning to on-site work, ending an unusual academic year accompanied by the pandemic. What a year! It was a year of fighting and winning the battle against the pandemic, and of creating new ways to provide high quality service to our users. With more and more people vaccinated and the country returning to a new normal, UW anticipates re-opening its campuses for the autumn quarter. Like the rest of the UW Libraries, Tateuchi EAL staff are working hard to welcome faculty, students and others to return on-site for the new academic year.

Tateuchi EAL staff have much to report from the spring quarter. On June 30, we presented Betsy Wilson, our Dean of University Libraries for the past twenty years, with a digital memory book conveying our best wishes for a happy retirement. Staff expressed heartfelt gratitude for her support and strong leadership. The UW Provost also announced the appointment of Simon Neame as the new Dean of University Libraries, effective September 1. Until then, Denise Pan and Lauren Pressley are serving as interim co-deans. Tateuchi EAL is working closely with fellow units of the Libraries’ Distinctive Collections portfolio to welcome Dean Neame. We have developed a SWOTs analysis to examine our internal strengths (S) and weaknesses (W) and external opportunities (O) and threats (T), which will help introduce our library to the new dean.

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The East Asian Center’s Title VI program external review, including a review of Tateuchi EAL, took place in the spring quarter. A panel of three faculty members specializing in Chinese, Japanese and Korean studies and an East Asia librarian conducted virtual interviews. Jim Cheng, Director of the C.V. Starr East Asian Library at Columbia University, was the library reviewer. He had several virtual meetings with Libraries personnel, including with the staff and management
team of Tateuchi EAL. We have just received the final report. Our management team is working with staff to develop action plans in response to its recommendations. The external review will also help introduce Tateuchi EAL and UW’s East Asian studies programs to the new dean of the Libraries.

The spring quarter brought good news regarding the Tateuchi EAL renovation project. Dean Wilson approved a grant of $300,000 to supplement the Tateuchi Foundation’s prior gift of $1 million, enabling us to immediately launch Phase I of the renovation. This focuses on the library’s reading room. Areas impacted will include the front entrance, the circulations desk, and the director’s office. We expect Phase I construction to take place between February and August 2022, in time to open our newly renovated reading room for the autumn quarter of 2022.

Another major development is the decision to relocate collections currently held in Tateuchi EAL’s Kane Auxiliary Stacks to an off-site facility. As part of a project to create new space for the iSchool on campus and for the Libraries at its Sand Point remote shelving facility, Tateuchi EAL will move its Kane collections—comprising about 70% of our print holdings—to Sand Point. The Sand Point expansion is expected to be completed in the spring of 2022. Tateuchi EAL staff have been working hard to prepare our collections for the move. This work is demanding, as we must make sure every item that goes to Sand Point is fully cataloged, so as to be discoverable and retrievable by users. Preparatory preservation work will be of critical importance, since our internationally sourced collections are irreplaceable; yet it will also be challenging, due to the poor quality paper of most older publications. We must be diligent in making proper housing for these invaluable research materials, so that they can endure the handling requirements of remote storage. We are working closely with the Libraries’ Preservation Services department on the technical details of relocation.

In spite of difficulties caused by COVID-19, Tateuchi EAL staff once again made significant accomplishments in the spring quarter. We successfully closed our fiscal biennium. We ordered new furniture to replace the decades-old lounge chairs in the reading-room and the conference/study tables in the 2M seminar room. We also purchased four sleep chairs for the 2M space, for study-weary students falling asleep over their books.

The new furniture will enhance our public spaces and the student experience. Other achievements include enhancing catalog discoverability of our special collections, developing procedures and workflows for processing e-resources, advancing our Chinese backlog cataloging outsourcing project, and contributing to a Libraries-wide serials cancellation project. Our librarians continued their excellent outreach work, including through the Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop Series, a lecture on the study of Taiwan history, and an exhibition and lecture on the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng, attracting participants worldwide. In this issue, you will find detailed stories of Tateuchi EAL staff achievements.

There are various changes in Tateuchi EAL staff to report. We have recently filled our vacant Circulations Supervisor position. Our new colleague Sharon Seabrook begins work on August 16, 2021. Heija Ryoo, our Korean Cataloger of seventeen years, has announced her retirement; her last day will be September 15. Tateuchi EAL staff is organizing an online retirement party for Heija on September 8. Please stay tuned for invitations and detailed information. Ms. Shuqi Ye, our first librarian intern, completed her six months working with us in June. She had previously worked at the library as a student employee. In both capacities, she has contributed significantly to the library while gaining hands-on experience as a librarian. To get ready for re-opening in the fall quarter, Tateuchi EAL is now actively recruiting and training new student workers. We encourage students to apply; postings will appear here.

We look forward to welcoming our faculty and students as we return to a new normal in the autumn quarter.
Decades into the digital age, the Tateuchi East Asia Library remains a stickler for print. Sure, we bow down to the convenience of online journals and the power of searchable databases. We even run workshops on digital scholarship. But for books we kept faith in print—until the pandemic. In a recent online meeting, Tateuchi EAL staff reflected on the challenges and rewards of our e-book encounter over the past year, and on possible future directions. We share here some of that discussion, with a little contextualization.

PRE-PANDEMIC: E-BOOK SKEPTICISM

No e-books at Tateuchi EAL? Well, we have long subscribed to databases that contain digital monographs or reproduce large book sets. Our e-book holdings, so defined, run to a very substantial 120,000 titles, compared to around 860,000 for print. But we acquire them as entire databases, not individual titles. These platforms have the benefit of cross-text searchability, but titles are selected by the vendor, subject to change, and usually not searchable in the UW catalog. Critically, all disappear with the cancellation of a subscription. Before the pandemic, we rarely purchased individual Chinese, Japanese, or Korean (CJK) language e-books. Seventy-one Japanese language learning books, acquired between 2016 and 2019, were a rare exception.

Our print-book bias reflects a tacit compact between Tateuchi EAL’s librarians and the distinctive users of our CJK collections. UW Libraries’ English-language materials cater to researchers from freshman to faculty level, each with varying needs and preferences. E-books form an expanding part of that mix. Users of CJK research resources, while also diverse, include higher proportions of graduate students and faculty. Their preferences, especially for intensive reading, have often skewed towards print. Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyoung Yi noted that prior to the pandemic, “My assumption was that faculty and students still preferred print for academic reading, whereas e-books were more for leisure reading. . . . I never received requests for e-books before the pandemic.”

To East Asian studies librarians—putting aside our own bibliophilic penchants—print books are ownable, physically and technologically preservable (for centuries rather than decades), sharable via inter-library loan, lendable to community borrowers lacking a UW NetID, and immune to geopolitics and post-publication censorship. We take seriously our library’s regional and national role as a repository of locally scarce East Asian language materials. Tateuchi EAL Director and Chinese Studies Librarian Zhijia Shen summed up ownership concerns as follows:

Who owns an e-book? We pay a lot to get a book, but we don’t “have” it. What is the perpetual ownership that is associated with the license? In the beginning, we always asked for a CD-ROM copy. Now we all know that’s useless, because without the platform they provide, you can’t access or read them. So it depends on the vendor, the publisher, to maintain all this. That’s always an uncertainty, to librarians and to faculty. They keep asking, “Where’s our collection now?” We’ve spent all the money, but where are the books?

By the same token, like most libraries we have embraced e-journals, whose rent-like subscription models are even more precarious. Users’ enthusiasm for downloadable and printable PDF files was a decisive factor in the earlier adoption of e-journals. CJK e-books rarely offer such convenience.
Technical, commercial, and funding issues have also discouraged e-book purchases. Some CJK e-books require special devices or software, or are compatible only with Windows. Or users must open individual accounts to access library subscriptions. Platforms may fail to meet accessibility standards. More so than for English language e-books, formats vary considerably across languages, markets, and platforms, and as Korean Cataloger Heija Ryoo noted, “We just pick the title. We don’t get to pick the format.” Content and reproductions are of uneven quality. Vendors may focus on popular titles, offering few scholarly works. Japanese Studies Librarian Azusa Tanaka lamented that “academic e-book titles from Japan are limited—there are many manga and novels though!” E-book business models may target individuals rather than institutions, or offer books only in packages. Pricing can be prohibitive, as Hyokyoung observed: “For institutions to buy, e-books are way more expensive than print copies . . . sometimes five times more expensive, if it’s a popular title.” Some funding organizations, such as the Korea Foundation, specify that grants can be used for print acquisitions only, to facilitate inter-library loans.

THE PANDEMIC FORCES CHANGE

Fast forward to March 2020. Suddenly COVID-19 sealed off our vaunted print collections. We scrambled to meet the needs of faculty and students. Open access resources gained new relevance. Librarians and providers collaborated to arrange emergency digital access to copyrighted materials: the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service program matched around 40% of the titles in UW’s physical collections, while vendors generously provided temporary free access to many Chinese language databases. Casting doubts aside, we also expanded purchases of digital resources, especially e-books, the area of greatest new demand during the pandemic. E-books offered not only remote use, but quick turnaround from ordering to access. Special funding supported this shift, including from UW Libraries’ COVID-19 Emergency Needs Fund.

Initial Emergency Responses

Early in the pandemic, Tateuchi EAL’s digital acquisitions closely targeted faculty and students’ emergency needs. Azusa and colleagues helped salvage a spring 2020 course Extensive Reading in Japanese (Tadoku), partly through the rush purchase of 51 e-books. She also purchased other e-books requested for coursework or research by faculty or students. Unfulfilled graduate student requests prompted Hyokyoung to open a pilot account with the Kyobo e-book platform (see our Autumn 2020 Newsletter). Also in response to urgent student needs, she subscribed to two North Korea news databases, despite reservations about cost and reliability (see her report in this issue). Hyokyoung had long insisted on buying print or microfilm versions of North Korean periodicals, both for their archival value and because she feared loss of access to online versions. Yet in the pandemic these were inaccessible, even via curbside pickup, forcing a new approach:

That really made me change my thinking as a selector. You think about our users’ needs. . . . This medium, the old printed paper that I religiously care for, no longer served our users during this pandemic. What about all the money that I had poured in? It was useless. . . . I had never felt this terrible as a librarian, in not being able to serve our users. It was a trauma, and a change factor.

Prior to the pandemic, we had been accumulating print books for a new Chinese extended reading course to be taught on-site in the library. With these books now off limits, Zhijia Shen and Circulation & Marking Lead Yan Zhu quickly purchased a subscription to The Chairman’s Bao, a database providing graded reading materials and reference tools. Yan also led a thrice-weekly Chinese Tea Hour to complement this and other Chinese language courses (see the Winter-Spring 2020 Newsletter). Chinese and Taiwanese studies benefited from existing e-book databases and others temporarily opened up by supportive vendors during the pandemic. Zhijia also purchased various English-language e-books and Chinese-language year books in response to urgent user needs.
Expansion

The success of these early acquisitions prompted Tateuchi EAL selectors to purchase additional e-books for the general collection. Over half of the 137 Japanese e-books purchased over the past year have been for general use. After the Korea Foundation gave temporary permission to use its grant for digital purchases, Hyokyoung expanded her e-book selections, again from the Kyobo platform; in all the library purchased 483 individual Korean e-books between September 2020 and May 2021. Zhijia has initiated an order for several hundred general-use Chinese language titles from the Taiwanese vendor Airiti.

The User Experience

Increased exposure has led to greater acceptance of e-books among both users and librarians. Users appreciate full-text and multi-text searchability, and being able to instantly browse, select, and read books remotely and on different devices. Switching her librarian’s hat for that of a reader, Hyokyoung enthused that “You can literally read anywhere, anytime. On your mobile phone it’s very easy and very accessible. . . . Every time you open a book, you are in their bookstore browsing the collection that UW created for us. If you like it you just get it—so quick and convenient.” By contrast, traveling to a campus library to check out a book is “such a long process.” Heija discovered that for Kyobo’s Korean e-books, choice of device impacts the experience: “In the beginning you have to learn, but then it’s really nice. On a tablet or phone it’s much easier [than on a computer].” With multi-user licenses, sometimes purchased for course use, many readers can simultaneously access a resource.

Work Flow Impact

Behind the scenes, e-books have significant impacts, both positive and negative, on library workflows. Delivery speed is an obvious benefit, especially compared with print books shipped from Asia. Hyokyoung remarked that: “Before the pandemic, if faculty requested a print copy, even if we rush-ordered, it would take at least two to three weeks to have that book ready for the person to pick up. But with an e-book, I need 24 hours to have that book delivered. That’s amazing!”

E-books eliminate costs and labor associated with print, such as shipping and handling (including expensive air freight for rush requests), marking (i.e. adding labels and identifiers to books), circulation transactions, reshelving, storage, preservation, and replacement in case of loss or damage. Once initial selection and processing is complete, usually the only remaining task is to troubleshoot occasional glitches with providers.

E-book vendors’ sites offer certain efficiencies. They assist selection by providing author biographies, tables of contents, previews, and reviews. They make it possible to combine selection and ordering processes, which for print are separate. Korean Collection and Cataloging Specialist Chuyong Bae finds that overall “individual e-book processing reduces many of the working steps associated with physical acquisitions.”

In other respects, e-book acquisition can compound work. Some problems are transitory, such as developing new skills, workflows, and documentation. Chuyong describes her steep learning curve: “We started individual e-book purchasing after the pandemic. It was a struggle, because I didn’t have any training or information before. I needed to research every step of the process from Staffweb or by talking to [Suzzallo Library] Technical Services staff. . . . Now I feel more comfortable, and have learned a lot from this process.” Korean, Japanese, and Chinese catalogers Heija Ryoo, Keiko Hill, and Jian Ping Lee (respectively) produced a detailed manual documenting the new procedures. Heija commented that “We’re at a stage of routine at this point; things are going smoothly.”

However, some sticking points are likely to persist. Selectors must screen vendors for product quality and long-term viability, and negotiate pricing and terms in opaque markets. Limited academic inventory and marked variations in quality and pricing require them to hunt widely for appropriate acquisitions. Since e-books and print books are sold by different vendors, selection...
processes are separate and duplicative. After purchase, selectors sometimes need to individually approve UW users’ accounts on a given e-book platform.

Post-selection, processing e-books presents additional complications. Catalogers face three main challenges. First, e-book records are inherently more complex, involving extra fields. Second, extracting e-book metadata is cumbersome. Heija commented that “It’s really hard to browse e-books.... You can’t flip through like a paper book, so it takes longer to understand the subject clearly, to create subject headings.” Checking details such as illustrations, pagination, and references is slower for the same reason. Third, unlike for print books, few e-book records are presently available in the OCLC union catalog for copying, due to low collection levels across institutions. If an e-book has a print counterpart, it may be possible to convert or enhance a print version’s record; however, “born-digital” titles are often altogether absent from OCLC, and the publications themselves often lack standard bibliographic metadata. Japanese Cataloger/TEAL Serials and E-Resource Librarian Keiko Hill finds the accumulative burden substantial: “I am concerned that if we have more demand for e-resources to catalog at once, I may not be able to produce good records in a timely manner.”

E-books also place demands on acquisition specialists, who must document and configure collection records, portfolios, activating links, and licensing information, all within rapidly changing software environments.

POST-PANDEMIC: WILL E-BOOK ACQUISITIONS INCREASE?

Yes . . .

The past year’s experiment has helped us appreciate the value of e-books and overcome some procedural barriers. The crisis has exercised an undeniable “push” effect, as Zhijia described:

Sometimes I joke that the pandemic kicked us into the 21st century. We were so reluctant to do electronic. But with the pandemic closure, we had to. . . . We were pushed into it, but now we see the advantages. I think definitely we’ll continue and expand. . . . We were in evolution, slowly moving towards that direction. But then the pandemic made us revolutionary; we had to do it, and just did it. And it was good.

Hyokyoung compared our adoption of e-books to that of digital journals a decade or two ago:

Libraries are typically conservative in holding on to print copies. We probably waited longer, and would have held on to print copies as long as possible. We did that with print journals too, and are still doing some essential journals in that way. The pandemic definitely helped us to change and transform quickly. . . . Look at journals. Ten or twenty years ago, everyone debated [whether to go electronic]. But now who debates e-journals anymore? No-one. E-books were on the way, but this has accelerated the change.

But . . .

Individual e-books will remain a minor supplement to print books, since the latter offer the best prospects for long term preservation. Zhijia stressed our role as a resource repository, working in conjunction with other libraries:

We are an R1 institution; we’re supposed to be a repository of certain archival research materials. We have a responsibility to preserve knowledge for generations to come. That has come into question now. It feels like the whole “e” thing is a time-bomb. Some day it will explode. . . . [Accessing CJK materials] depends on relations between countries. What if relations broke?—What would happen to
these electronic resources? For Chinese journal databases, frequently we notice articles disappearing. A scholar can be “taken off the shelf,” and all his work disappears from all the databases. . . . E-resources are wonderful to use; but if we want to worry, we have a lot to worry about. . . . Somebody in the country, perhaps the Library of Congress, should get a print copy of everything. One print copy to be stored in a safe place, to preserve knowledge for the future.

Preservation concerns will also steer Azusa primarily to Japanese print resources:

I am concerned about non-perpetual access to these e-resources. UW holds one of the largest Japanese language collections outside Japan, and I am aiming to develop a secure Japanese collection/repository in this area. Replacing the physical titles with electronic ones is not my goal, at least for now.

Hyokeyoung will prioritize print for Korean acquisitions, while continuing to explore electronic resources. She noted that e-book business models are more preservation-friendly than those for e-journals:

Before the pandemic, if possible I would just stick with print, which is safe. It’s tangible—if you bought something it was right there. But compared to e-journals, I feel much better [about e-books]. Once I pay the price of an e-book, I don’t have to pay year after year. . . . I have higher reticence when I have to pay every year for journal subscriptions—when you stop paying, all of a sudden everything disappears.

Readers can expect to see more Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language e-books pop up in the UW catalog, but as Zhijia stresses, “Don’t worry about print books disappearing.” For the foreseeable future, print will remain central to Tateuchi EAL book acquisition. Storage limitations challenge the long-term growth of print collections, but libraries are seeking solutions to these. Nonetheless, the pandemic has demonstrated the value of electronic resources, and prompted us to think of ways we can generate our own. As Azusa observed:

While publishers may catch up and start providing more e-resources for libraries to purchase, the libraries also own the unique special collections that nobody else has. It is our mission to digitize and make them accessible to the world, whether we are in a pandemic or not.

LEARNING KOREAN THROUGH KYOBO E-BOOKS

by Nanako Kubo

I am a Global Studies major taking Korean 303 this spring quarter. Through this course, I have become a user of the Kyobo eBook platform, which provides a wide variety of e-books. I have been so glad to find such a useful and convenient resource. It has been exciting choosing from so many interesting books. I’ve been reading one book for twenty minutes each week, and my Korean skills have definitely improved. I can read Korean much faster now, and my pronunciation has improved a lot. I’m grateful to our professor JungHee Kim for giving us the opportunity to read e-books—something I’d wanted to do but didn’t have time—and learn Korean at the same time; and also to the Kyobo website for providing so many books to choose from! I highly recommend this convenient platform, which the Libraries has made available to any student interested in reading Korean books—like me! Thank you so much.

The Kyobo eBook edition of K’ap’e Homjū ŭi majimak sarang 卡페 홈즈 의 마지막 사랑 (Last Love of Café Holmes, 2020), an anthology of short stories by various authors, including the acclaimed fiction writer Kim T’ak-hwan 김탁환
Mention “Jews” and “China” in the same breath, and many might think of the Jews who traveled to China from the west in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Less well known is that a group of Jews lived in the city of Kaifeng, in today’s Henan province, uninterrupted for nearly a thousand years. Unlike the Jews arriving in modern times, who were regarded as guests and foreigners, the Kaifeng Jews “had become fully Chinese in culture and yet remained fully Jewish in religion and identity” (Laytner and Paper, ix). After settling in China for generations, for various reasons they gradually lost contact with outside Jewry and became an orphan colony. Not until the Jesuit missionary Matteo Ricci met the Kaifeng Jew Ai Tian in Beijing in 1605 did Europeans learn of their existence. Generations of isolation had led to the loss of much of their knowledge and language and many of their sacred ritual artifacts, but they and their memories had survived, and still do today.

I knew little of this history when I began working on the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng project at the Tateuchi East Asia Library. Initiated by Tateuchi EAL Director and Chinese Studies Librarian Zhijia Shen, the project was intended to present the story of the Kaifeng Jews to the general public to enrich understanding of both Jewish and Chinese histories and cultures. Its inspiration came from Rabbi Anson H. Laytner, President of the Sino-Judaic Institute and longtime editor of the journal Points East, who in 2018 visited Tateuchi EAL to view rubbings of steles from the Kaifeng synagogue and donated a book he had co-edited with Jordan Paper, The Chinese Jews of Kaifeng: A Millennium of Adaptation and Endurance (2017). Rabbi Laytner and his book introduced us to the fascinating world of Judaism’s premodern history in China.

The Chinese Jews of Kaifeng comprises an online exhibition and a lecture by Rabbi Laytner (view a recording). When I began work on the project in February 2020, the exhibition was scheduled for physical display at UW’s Allen Library from May 12 to June 26. Completely new to the subject, I began to search for and read as many sources as possible. I started with two books. One was Chinese Jews: A Compilation of Matters Relating to the Jews of K’ai-Fêng Fu (1966), by William Charles White (1873-1960), Bishop of the Canadian missionary Diocese of Honan (Henan) from 1909 to 1934. White lived in Kaifeng for more than twenty years and bought many artifacts from the Kaifeng Jewish community. His book is a massive compilation of materials and research, giving me a very comprehensive view of the Kaifeng Jewish community. The other was Rabbi Laytner’s book, a collection of articles by twelve leading scholars exploring different aspects of the community, which showed me a broad range of research. The two books unveiled the history and life of the Chinese Jews of Kaifeng and provided a solid foundation for my subsequent research and work on the exhibition. The more I read, the more my interest grew. The stories recorded in stele inscriptions and history books were so amazing that I couldn’t wait to present them to others.

When we were halfway through exhibition preparations, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted our plans. All physical events and activities were postponed or shifted online. Fortunately, UW Libraries was in the midst of piloting Omeka, a
popular digital exhibition platform. To avoid further delay, Zhijia decided to stage our exhibition virtually on Omeka. We simultaneously created exhibition content and learned how to use Omeka. We encountered several problems during the process but eventually achieved quite pleasing results. We received many suggestions from Rabbi Laytner and Dr. Wendy Abraham, improving the accuracy of exhibition materials.

The second part of the project was a lecture by Rabbi Laytner on June 3, 2021. This was a great success, attracting almost a hundred participants from all over the world. It was my first time managing a Zoom meeting. Setting up the meeting, managing registration, and handling unexpected issues during the lecture allowed me to view such events from a different perspective. I would like to thank my co-host Lucy Li, without whose help it would not have been a success.

After the lecture, I knew the project was coming to an end. But the exhibition remains online as a record of our efforts and the challenges we faced. I would like to thank Zhijia for bringing me to this project, Rabbi Laytner for his guidance and wonderful lecture, and Lucy for publicizing the project among different communities and co-hosting the lecture. Last but not least, we thank the Friends of UW Libraries for supporting the project financially. The Chinese Jews of Kaifeng has brought me so much valuable experience, and knowledge that will empower me to further my career in librarianship.

References

Exhibition: http://tealtld.ds.lib.uw.edu/exhibits/show/kaifengjews

Lecture recording: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YDUYTjrly1U

In February 2021, I was looking around various UW websites for opportunities to work on campus. I stumbled across a page listing student jobs in the UW Libraries and saw a Circulation Student Specialist position available at the Tateuchi East Asia Library. The description stated that the applicant must be fluent in Mandarin Chinese. Mandarin is my native language, so I thought that I was a good fit for the position. Additionally, I had never worked in a paid position in the U.S., and this seemed like a great opportunity to experience a professional environment here. With these motivations in mind, I submitted my resume.

About a month later, in mid-March, I received an email from Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyoung Yi regarding my application. She went on to offer me the position, which I was glad to accept. This being my first job in the U.S., and with the entire campus still operating under COVID-19 guidelines, I was excited but also a bit nervous.

Due to COVID restrictions, my first orientation session with Hyokyoung was held over Zoom. A year’s online classes had accustomed me to meeting people over Zoom. Therefore, meeting with Hyokyoung and going through my Library of Congress (LC) call number training via Zoom did not detract from my learning experience as a new library employee. Moreover, my orientation was not entirely online. During my first on-site work shift, Hyokyoung came in person to provide me with ample guidance, which helped me quickly get on track with my responsibilities. Despite my orientation being held mostly remotely, I felt comfortable applying what I had learned to my actual work.

The COVID-era campus work environment is very different from normal. First, Gowen Hall is closed, so I have to communicate with on-site library staff to access the building. So far, everyone I have worked with has been helpful and approachable. Second, I cannot work on-site without library staff being present. Therefore, there is less flexibility to arrange work around my regular school schedule. I have been adapting to this situation by doing school work and making up lectures over the weekend. I have had little problem in balancing my schoolwork with library work. Lastly, in order to make sure that no more than six people work on-site at the same time, Tateuchi EAL adopted an online sign-up sheet for staff and student employees to schedule work slots. I like the freedom this gives me to arrange my own working time. However, I have found scheduling options rather unpredictable. I am always uncertain when I’ll need to finish working in the afternoon, since staff leave the library at different times on different days. It would be nice if staff work times and scheduling options could be provided further in advance, to help me plan my school work.

I have learned a lot from my work at Tateuchi EAL. I had zero knowledge of the LC classification system before my orientation. I have witnessed how powerful this system is and how the call numbers can be infinitely expanded to fit the library’s ever-growing collection of books. In marking and shelving new books, it has been satisfying to see how new books are integrated into the library, and to be a part of that process. Before I started working at the library, I had thought that university operations had largely shut down due to the building closures. However, I soon witnessed how hard library staff are working behind the scenes to incorporate new materials into the collection and keep library services such as no-contact pickup operational. It has been fulfilling to help on-site staff keep the library running smoothly.

Overall, despite the difficulties that I had to deal with during this unusual time, I have enjoyed working at Tateuchi EAL. Walking into the library stacks for the first time was an experience that I will remember forever—it was very impressive to see such a huge collection of works in different languages. I look forward to continuing my efforts at the library.
MY JOURNEY AS A JAPANESE COLLECTION STUDENT SPECIALIST

by Miyano Sato

It has been a blast working for Tateuchi East Asia Library as a Japanese Collection Student Specialist. I joined the Tateuchi EAL community in the fall of 2020. Working remotely from the very beginning was exciting yet challenging. In a nutshell, some things went smoothly, while others went less well due to miscommunications and differing assumptions. Actually, I view such challenges positively, recognizing that this moment of remote work provides a great opportunity to reflect on the form of the library and how we can adapt to the new normal.

What is the new normal for you? To me, it’s the do-everything-online mentality. The UW Libraries wants sources to be accessible and easy to use online. One of my responsibilities as a Japanese Collection Student Specialist has been to create appealing digital content, such as promotional materials on social media and recordings on YouTube, relating to the library’s events and new resources. There are two things that I have cared about most when sharing information with users in the digital sphere: a sense of belonging and authenticity.

SENSE OF BELONGING

During the pandemic, many people have struggled to find a sense of belonging. I have felt the same way myself when seeking connections within UW learning communities. I am grateful that I have been able to promote Tateuchi EAL events on social media for those, like me, who want to make connections and learn new things. To make the library’s online workshops and events appealing and welcoming for students, I have valued their feelings when creating promotional communications on social media. In the design of posters and Facebook posts, I have paid close attention to how viewers might feel when images meet their eye. I use eye-catching colors and fonts to create a positive impression of the event and enable viewers to feel and know what it will be about. My social media posts begin and end with friendly expressions in a personal tone, encouraging viewers to engage with the posts and participate in events. For instance, I always start with casual greetings, my name, and my title. At the same time, I include welcoming notes such as “UW library is here to help you” to show advocacy.

AUTHENTICITY

During this time of disinformation and misinformation turmoil, the UW libraries has worked hard to provide access to quality information resources. I have learned that authenticity of information is a key to providing better learning experiences for all. One of my responsibilities has been to transcribe recordings of TEAL Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Workshop Series events, for uploading to YouTube. This experience has changed my view of accessibility and authenticity 180 degrees. I initially thought that simplifying words and expressions would make it easier for viewers to quickly skim through and understand the content. However, I realized that abbreviated captions can omit authentic information, such as that conveyed about speakers’ personalities through interjections such as “um” and “uh”. So, I began to transcribe speakers’ every utterance, including interjections between sentences and repeated words.
Reevaluating the role of digitized resources and services—including e-books, e-articles, and online events—will allow the UW Libraries to improve the accessibility and quality of its materials, and in turn improve higher education itself. Although it is still hard to feel at ease in our hearts due to the precarious pandemic situation around the globe, I am grateful to have been part of Tateuchi EAL at this moment, learning new perspectives and sharing them with you all. I am excited to keep contributing to the UW community in this way and to adapt, for the better, to the new normal.

EDITING A VIDEO USING YOUTUBE STUDIO

INTERNING IN THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY

by Shuqi Ye

I was admitted as an international student to the UW iSchool’s Master of Library and Information (MLIS) program in 2018. My professional goal was to work as a librarian in an East Asia library, so beginning in 2019 I was fortunate to have the opportunity to work at the Tateuchi East Asia Library as a student employee. After graduating in 2020, I was eligible for a one-year work permit under the Optional Practical Training (OPT) scheme. I thus became the Tateuchi EAL’s first library intern.

I first worked with Jian Ping Lee, the Chinese Cataloging and Metadata Librarian, on a project titled “Discover Republican China: Cataloging Hidden Treasures of 20th Century Chinese Publications” (see the Winter-Spring 2020 Newsletter). This involves cataloging a historical backlog of uncataloged twentieth century materials, to make them fully accessible to library patrons. My tasks included searching titles in the OCLC union catalog, providing bibliographic information to outsourcing vendors for original cataloging, and performing copy cataloging. The process wasn’t always exciting but the books I encountered were full of interest.

I later worked with Yanyan Sun, the Chinese Collection and Cataloging Specialist, processing new books that had piled up in the reading room during the pandemic. I processed receipt of the books in the library’s Alma software system and performed copy cataloging. After clearing the backlog of boxes, I helped check duplicate titles and place orders through Alma.

In my final two months, I worked with Tateuchi EAL Director and Chinese Studies Librarian Zhijia Shen and Student Specialist on TEAL Projects Lucy Li. Our focus was completing an online exhibition The Chinese Jews of Kaifeng and beginning work on an upcoming exhibition on Dunhuang.

Working with different teams within the Tateuchi EAL has helped me understand the roles of each and how they coordinate as a library. These are valuable insights and experiences that I could never have gained from iSchool.


**TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER | Spring-Summer 2021**

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# COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

## SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS

### CHINA STUDIES: NEW DATABASES

*by Zhijia Shen*

1. **Taiwan Electronic Periodical Services (TEPS) and Chinese Electronic Theses and Dissertations Service (CETD)**

With support from the UW Libraries COVID-19 Emergency Needs Fund, TEAL has purchased three-year subscriptions to the databases Taiwan Electronic Periodical Services (TEPS) and Chinese Electronic Theses and Dissertations Service (CETD). TEPS includes around 3,000 academic journals published since 1948 in all subject areas, with 2,102 titles published in Taiwan and the rest in other parts of the world. Most journals are in Chinese. CETD offers a large number of theses and dissertations produced in Taiwan on all subjects. TEPS and CETD are the largest journal and thesis databases in Taiwan. Our acquisition of these important resources provides immediate support for UW’s new Taiwan Studies Program.

TEPS and CETD are components of the Hua yi xian shang tu shu guan (華藝線上圖書館, Airiti Library). To access them, search under that title in the UW catalog or A-Z database list. You can also find Airiti Library links in the Library’s Taiwan Studies and Chinese Studies Research Guides. Beneath the databases’ listings on these research guides, you can also access a list of journal titles covered in TEPS and of institutions covered in CETD. From the Airiti Library home page, select “Journal Articles” 期刊文章 for TEPS and “Theses” 碩博士論文 for CETD.


Developed by the National Library of China Publishing House, the Chinese Historical Document Database draws from the large and rich collections of the National Library of China. Its sub-database Database of Modern Chinese Newspapers (also known as Modern Newspaper in China) includes four series covering national newspapers and influential local newspapers from selected regions of China collected by the National Library of China and other libraries. The database focuses on newspapers not already included in other published databases. The first two series include 100 newspapers and the third and fourth series include 226 newspapers, published between 1840 and 1949. We have purchased Series I, containing 50 newspapers. You can access a list of titles from beneath the database’s listing on the Newspapers page of the Chinese Studies Research Guide.

This purchase is a significant addition to our collection of primary sources for the study of the late Qing and Republican periods, both highly significant in China’s modernization.
Thanks to the COVID-19 Emergency Needs Fund, which UW Libraries established to support our faculty and students’ remote teaching and learning during the pandemic, we have been able to acquire a one-year subscription (ending March 2022) to an electronic version of *Dai Kan-Wa jiten* 大漢和辞典 (Great Chinese-Japanese Dictionary). The largest and most comprehensive Chinese-Japanese dictionary published in Japan, *Dai Kan-Wa jiten* includes entries for 50,000 individual *kanji* (Sinitic graphs) and 530,000 compound words and phrases. The fifteen-volume dictionary cites examples from classical Chinese texts from the pre-Qin (pre-221 BCE) to Qing (1644-1911) periods, as well as classical Chinese-style poetry and prose (Kanshibun 漢詩文) created by Japanese writers.

Scholars affectionately refer to this dictionary as “The Morohashi,” after the renowned Sinologist Tetsuji Morohashi 諸橋轍次, who compiled the first thirteen volumes. It took 35 years (1925-1960) for Morohashi to complete these volumes, including interruptions caused by World War II—the majority of plates were destroyed in an air raid in 1945. Morohashi’s successors continued his legacy, completing the final volume of the supplement in 2000. This feat of 75 years’ scholarship has been utilized by researchers of Japanese and Chinese language, literature, and history for many decades. Major East Asian studies research collections generally hold a copy—Tateuchi EAL has a print version in the reading room.

During the Libraries’ physical closure, many researchers asked about alternative access to this irreplaceable resource. As the release date of the online version of *Dai Kan-Wa jiten* was approaching, I listed it in our COVID-19 Emergency Needs Fund proposal. The request was approved just as the dictionary appeared. Remote access and the convenience of online searchability will empower scholars pursuing all kinds of research on East Asian languages, literature or history, whether remotely or on-site once the libraries reopen. You can access *Dai Kan-Wa jiten* via the UW Libraries catalog. It is a component of the JapanKnowledge platform: you can also access it from there.

**References**


KOREAN STUDIES: NORTH KOREA NEWS DATABASES

by Hyokyong Yi

When the pandemic hit last spring, the UW Libraries quickly established the COVID-19 Emergency Needs Fund to help our faculty and students quickly transition to remote learning and research. Our first round of purchases from this fund provided access to essential resources for autumn quarter courses. For the second round, I requested two high priority Korean studies resources, both of which colleagues approved after careful review. They are KPM: Chosŏn ŏllon chŏngbo kiji 조선언론정보기지 and NK PRO, both news databases focusing on North Korea. There has recently been great demand for these databases from graduate students who cannot access the library’s North Korean newspapers or microfilm collections. These online sources have provided the only access to North Korean newspapers during the Libraries’ physical closure. While KPM offers Korean language newspapers, NK PRO provides North Korean news in English, supporting English-language based learning and research across many disciplines. We were able to invite NK PRO’s vendor to provide a demonstration over Zoom in April. Participants acquired a deeper understanding of both this database and companion resources NK News and KCNA Watch.
DISCOVERING THE JOSEPH F. ROCK COLLECTION IN THE UW ONLINE CATALOG

by Jian Ping Lee

The Joseph Rock Collection is one of the Tateuchi East Asia Library’s special collections. It was acquired from Joseph Francis Charles Rock (1884-1962) in the 1950s. In order to make it easier for users to identify works belonging to this collection, we recently added additional access points to the bibliographical records. At the time of the records’ creation, our librarians added a local note field recording the inscription on the book plates, “Ex Libris : J.F. Rock.” The collection is commonly known as the [Joseph R.] Rock Collection, but users searching for such terms in our online catalog had difficulty finding collection content. We have now established an additional access point for the collection by adding "Joseph F. Rock Collection (University of Washington. Libraries)” as a corporate name, which in the catalog can be searched from the author field. See here for a list of catalog entries for works in the collection.

NEW BOOK LISTS ARE BACK

by Yan Zhu

Tateuchi EAL has a longstanding practice of circulating monthly new books lists among faculty and students, to keep them updated on new acquisitions. In recent years, we’ve posted links to these lists on the library’s homepage. After a year’s hiatus during the pandemic, in May we resumed posting new book lists, beginning with a bumper edition covering the entire previous year.

For newly arrived Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language books, the lists provide titles and authors in vernacular scripts, Latin-script transliterations of these, English translations of titles where available, and call numbers. The vernacular script field makes it easier for users to browse the lists and find books of interest. A long story lies behind this single column, involving the efforts of several UW Libraries staff members and improvements in support for linguistic diversity in the Alma library services platform that we use for acquisitions and cataloging.

We began providing new book lists around a year before UW Libraries’ switch in 2013 to Alma. Unfortunately Alma did not support pulling lists in non-Latin scripts. We could provide a new book list, but with Romanized titles only. Subject librarians articulated a need to include vernacular scripts. Richard Carkeek, our Circulation and Marking Supervisor at the time, researched ways to accomplish this. Working with Will Davis, an Acquisitions Metadata Specialist at Suzzallo Library, Richard developed a complex multi-step method involving Alma Analytics, Marc Out, Microsoft Access, and Excel.

Fortunately Alma’s language support has since improved, and we can now directly, but separately, pull lists of vernacular-script titles and call numbers. A second step of integrating these two lists using Microsoft Access is still necessary in 2020, due to the pandemic, the annual “Knowledge Day” workshop run by Alma’s vendor, Ex Libris, moved online. I raised this issue with the Ex Libris technician and asked whether they could add vernacular script titles to the Analytics function list. They are willing to improve the system’s multilingual functionality, and are supportive of this specific proposal. After discussions and testing, UW Libraries Integrated Library Systems Coordinator Anne Pepitone has begun working with Ex Libris technicians to make it come true. I hope that we will soon be able to pull our new book lists, complete with vernacular script titles, in a single step!

New books temporarily housed, during the pandemic, on Tateuchi EAL’s first floor
OUTREACH

TATEUCHI RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOPS

by Ian Chapman

The spring quarter rounded off a successful year for the Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop Series, generously sponsored by the Tateuchi Foundation. This year we divided our programming into three categories, each typically with two events per quarter: TEAL Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies, scheduled for the first week of each month; TEAL Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Community Coffee Hour, meeting in the final week of each month; and separate TEAL Research Methods workshops for China/Taiwan, Japan, and Korea, usually held in the second or third week of the quarter. Due to pandemic restrictions, all events were online.

Each quarter’s Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies features a scholarly talk followed by a hands-on practical workshop, linked by a common theme. The spring 2021 theme was Creative Geovisualization. We were fortunate to have Dr. Jin-Kyu Jung, Associate Professor in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences (UW Bothell) and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Geography (UW Seattle), present both the talk and workshop. His April lecture “Engaging with Creative Geovisualization: Imagining Creativity in Mapping and GIS” explored research and pedagogical applications of creative geovisualization, which, as Dr. Jin put it, “emphasizes visualization and mapping that preserve, represent, and generate more authentic, contextual, and nuanced meanings of space and people by adopting artistic and humanistic approaches.” At the May workshop, Dr. Jin demonstrated the use of ATLAS.ti software for incorporating GIS (geographic information system) and mapping into qualitative data analysis. The complementary events drew sizable audiences from both East Asian studies and disciplinary communities, and generated enthusiastic interaction.

In the spring quarter’s two Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Community Coffee Hour sessions, we experimented with different formats. At the April meeting, UW graduate student and Tateuchi EAL Japanese Collection Student Specialist Miyano Sato joined librarians Hyokyoung Yi and Zhijia Shen in leading informal discussion on digital scholarship projects. In May, two scholars gave more formal presentations on current research projects: Dr. Jing Xu (National Academy of Education/Spencer Postdoctoral Fellow) on “Children in mid-20th century Taiwan: Interpreting historical fieldnotes with data science techniques”; and Li-Ying Wang (PhD Candidate, Department of Anthropology) on “Sharing archaeological research with the public using non-profit data repositories and preprint services.” The Coffee Hour has proved a lively forum of exchange, accommodating varying levels of formality and expertise.

Tateuchi EAL librarians Azusa Tanaka (Japan), Hyokyoung Yi (Korea), and Ian Chapman (China/Taiwan) continued to offer separate workshops focusing on individual sub-regions of East Asia. Having recently acquired some new databases, and with events of necessity being held remotely, we took the opportunity to invite East Asia-based suppliers to directly introduce new resources to UW users.

Tateuchi Research Methods workshops will be back in the 2021-2022 academic year. With the University and Libraries resuming on-site operations, we look forward to hosting UW community members in person when health conditions permit. At the same time, academia has marveled this past year at the magic of assembling worldwide audiences for virtual events. We will join others in exploring how to incorporate that into the post-pandemic world. Check our workshop website for event details.

Dr. Jin-Kyu Jung
REPORT ON UW’S GAIHOZU MAP COLLECTION PUBLISHED IN OSAKA UNIVERSITY NEWSLETTER

by Azusa Tanaka

Japanese Cataloger Keiko Hill and Japanese Studies Librarian Azusa Tanaka each contributed articles to the latest issue (no. 12, 2021) of Gaihōzu Kenkyū Nyūzuretā 外邦図研究ニューズレター (Gaihōzu Research Newsletter). This Japanese-language newsletter is published by the Gaihōzu Kenkyū Gurūpu 外邦図研究グループ (Gaihōzu Research Group) at Osaka University’s Graduate School of Letters, Institute of Human Geography, for the purpose of sharing current research and reporting new findings relating to Gaihōzu 外邦図 (“maps of outer lands”). As explained in previous issues of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletter, Gaihōzu are topographic maps of areas outside Japan produced—on the basis of either original surveys or existing maps—by the former Japanese Imperial Army from the 1880s to the end of World War II. The UW Libraries owns a significant number of such maps, hence we were invited to report on our collection in the newsletter.

The maps present distinctive cataloging challenges. They are almost a hundred years old, were surveyed for military purposes rather than the usual geographical assessment, and were revised by hand rather than through new print editions, due to the rapidly changing war climate. It is difficult to apply conventional cataloging rules in such circumstances, complicating the process greatly. Keiko wrote about specific challenges such as these, her broader perspectives on the UW Libraries’ Gaihōzu collection as a cataloger, and her plans for organizing and providing access points to this unique collection.

In her article, Azusa wrote about the collection’s unique provenance, characteristics, and potential research uses, our processes for taking inventory of the maps, and her vision for providing more convenient user access to the collection.

We are excited to see our Gaihōzu collection introduced in a Japanese-language publication for the first time. Gaihōzu Research Newsletter is read by geography scholars and enthusiasts as well as librarians and archivists. We look forward to receiving inquiries from and collaborations with readers in Japan and beyond.

The full articles can be found at http://www.let.osaka-u.ac.jp/geography/gaihouzu/newsletter12/


by Zhijia Shen

On June 30, 2021, Lizabeth (Betsy) Wilson stepped down as Dean of University Libraries and Vice Provost of Digital Initiatives, roles she has performed with distinction since 2001 and 2013 respectively. Betsy has been an inspirational leader of the Libraries—especially throughout the challenges of the past year’s pandemic—and a strong supporter and friend of the Tateuchi East Asia Library in particular. On June 24, our staff members joined with colleagues from UW and across the library and information studies (LIS) world in an emotional virtual farewell. In addition, we presented Betsy with a memory book—in electronic and print forms—featuring our personal messages and two decades of photographs of Betsy at Tateuchi EAL events.

Personally, I’ll always remember the high expectations Betsy held for Tateuchi EAL. On my first day at UW, I met with her and asked what she expected of me. “To fulfill the promise of this great East Asia Library,” was her reply. I have been working diligently toward that ever since. It will be Tateuchi EAL’s motto for generations to come.

While sad to see Betsy depart, we thank her for her many years of steadfast support, and congratulate her on her well deserved retirement. She has promised to welcome visitors to her new home in Louisville—where she will join family—with the best Kentucky bourbons. We all look forward to it.

Betsy will have a worthy successor in newly appointed Dean of University Libraries Simon Neame, who will join us on September 1. We welcome Simon, and look forward to working as closely with him as we did with Betsy.
THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER AND BLOG WELCOME YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Do you use the Tateuchi East Asia Library? Have our materials or resources contributed to your research, study, or teaching? Have you visited our spaces or attended our events? If you have any library-related story to share, we want to hear from you!

For article and submission guidelines, see: www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news/newsletter-submissions.

We look forward to seeing your byline in an upcoming issue!

ABOUT THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

The Tateuchi East Asia Library Newsletter is produced by the library’s librarians and staff. Inquiries concerning content and subscription requests may be directed to the editors, Ian Chapman (ichapman@uw.edu) and Jian Ping Lee (jlee37@uw.edu).

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Current and back issues of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletter are available online at www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news