

## News from the East Asian Collection, The University of Melbourne Library

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### Exhibitions on Highlights of East Asian Rare materials

#### 1. Highlights of the Harry Felix Simon Collection, February - April, 2013, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Baillieu Library.

[The Harry Simon Collection](#) consists of 1022 books published in classical Chinese c1880s–c1980s, which originally formed the private research collection of Professor Emeritus Harry Felix Simon (b.1923). An eminent linguist of English birth, Simon was appointed Foundation Professor of Oriental Studies at the University of Melbourne in 1961. During his time at the University he played an important role in the establishment of teaching and research in the discipline of Oriental Studies (later known as East Asian Studies), including the teaching of Chinese and Japanese languages.



Image: Harry Felix Simon, 1960s

#### 2. Sport in Japan during the early 20th century, May – June 2013, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Baillieu Library.

Featuring some of the less commonly seen items from the Japanese rare book collection, this display focuses on sporting activities from the early 20th century. Highlights include a monograph on physical education in schools from the first decade of the century, showing hand coloured illustrations of children's games and scenes from a school Sports Day, and items about the Meiji Jingu Games, a national sporting event held between the 1920s and early 1940s.



Image: [Detail] Takenoshita, Kyūzō, Taiiku gojunen [primary school sports day games], 1950

### 3. Highlights from the [R.F. Price Collection](#), July – September, 2013, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, East Asian Collection.

Dr Ronald Francis Price is a renowned scholar of comparative education who has written widely on education in China. The R.F. Price Collection consists of 1268 Chinese printed items published in China from the 1960s to 1980s amassed by Dr Price during his distinguished career. Presented to the University Library by Dr. Price in 2007, the collection is unique in western libraries, with its strong focus on school textbooks, children books and books associated with education in China published during the Cultural Revolution period. This display will profile a selection of significant items from the collection.

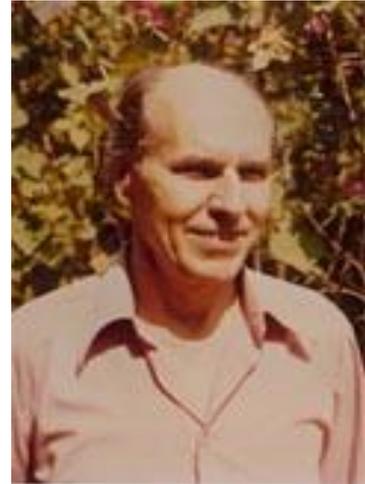


Image: Dr R.F. Price, 1983

#### Chinese databases trial

1. ChinaScope Financial (Trial)  
<http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/eresource/2013/02/21/chinascope-financial-trial/>
2. WiseNews Academic (Trial)  
<http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/eresource/2013/05/07/wisenews-academic-trial/>
3. Wanfang Data (Trial)  
<http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/eresource/2013/05/20/wanfang-data-trial-2/>
4. Wanfang Video (Trial)  
<http://blogs.unimelb.edu.au/eresource/2013/05/20/wanfang-video-trial/>

#### New subscribed databases

*Wen yuan ge si ku quan shu dian zi ban. (文淵閣四庫全書電子版)*

The *Siku Quanshu* ('Complete Library of Four Treasures') is a compendium of 3,000 years of Chinese knowledge, including literature, history, medicine, science and technology, diplomacy, philosophy, linguistics and so much more. This definitive Wenyuange edition of the *Siku Quanshu* encompasses 3,460 works totalling more than 36,000 volumes and is brought to life like never before in a unique, fully online format.

### Japanese new acquisitions

Some old and rare books bought for the collection include many works with illustrations such as “Picture book of a prosperous household” (絵本栄家種), several colourful sugoroku (双六 ; dice game sheets) from the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, several woodblock print scrapbooks, a Meiji era reprint of an Edo cookery book (早見献立帳) , and a lovely (but fragile) fold-out map of two of the main five travel routes in Edo period Japan, the Tokaido and the Kisokaido.

### Staff Development

Michelle Hall attended a workshop in Japanese Antiquarian Materials in Tenri, Japan in June. While in Japan she also visited suppliers and other libraries such as Waseda University, Shibusawa Foundation, the National Diet Library Kansaikan.

Bick- har Yeung attended the CSAA Conference in July, Hobart. She presented a paper at the library panel entitled “A National Collection to support the research of South-western China at the East Asian Collection, the University of Melbourne Library. ( Chinese title: 墨尔本大学东亚图书馆中国西南区地方文献的典藏及利用)