

AUSTRALIAN NEWS

Asian Studies Council

The Asian Studies Council has released its National strategy for the study of Asia in Australia, chaired by Dr Stephen Fitzgerald, as well as the draft Ingleson Report, otherwise called: Asia in Australian higher education: Report of the inquiry into the teaching of Asian Studies and languages in higher education, which was submitted to the Asian Studies Council in January 1989. The latter has one full chapter on "Libraries and other information resources".

Australian honours theses in Japanese studies

The Japanese Studies Association of Australia (JSAA) hopes to publish a list of honours theses completed in 1988 on Japan or on Australia-Japan relations in its first issue of 1989.

JSAA Newsletter Vol. 8(4), December 1988: p.19

Macquarie University

Professor David Holm has been appointed to the Chair of Chinese in the School of Modern Languages, and Professor Y.Y. Kueh has been appointed to the Chair of Chinese Political Economy in the School of Economics and Financial Studies. The Japanese language has received an enthusiastic introduction at Macquarie University.

Eugenie Greig,
Associate University Librarian (Cataloguing)
Macquarie University Library

National Library of Australia

Farewell to Pauline Haldane

Pauline Haldane retired on Friday, 31st March, after a long and distinguished career, including nearly 20 years at the National Library. In particular, as Principal Librarian, Asian Collections (formerly Area Studies) since 1979, she has made an outstanding contribution to raising the profile of NLA's Asian collections and services both within the Library and in the wider national and international arena.

EALRGA Newsletter No. 15, May 1989

Pauline's interest in Asia is wide-ranging and has developed over many years. Her qualifications include a BA from the University of Sydney and BA (Asian Studies) from the Australian National University. She has studied Japanese, Indonesian and Hindi as well as a number of European languages. Before working at NLA she held various positions, including that of Japanese cataloguer at ANU Library in 1954, and Librarian at the British Council Library, Tokyo, from 1959-1960. After service as a Librarian Class 1 at NLA from 1970-1973, she was promoted to Senior Librarian, Overseas Cataloguing, 1973-1974, before returning to the Asian Studies field as Chief Librarian, South and Southeast Asia, 1974-1979. Just prior to becoming Principal Librarian, Asian Collections, she served for two months as NLA's Indonesian Acquisition Librarian attached to the Australian Embassy in Jakarta.

Under Pauline's direction as Principal Librarian the National Library's collections on Asia have developed so that they are now not only the largest and most important in Australia, but are of world class. The Chinese, Japanese, Indonesian, Thai and Korean collections are particularly significant.

Pauline has been especially successful at promoting and publicising these collections. At her initiative, Asian Collections staff have produced a wide range of collection descriptions, bibliographies and current awareness bulletins which have had a marked impact on the use of NLA's Asian materials. Through attendance at major Australian and overseas conferences on Asia she has greatly increased outside awareness of the Library. For example, in the past two years she has attended major conferences in Britain, Scandinavia, Taiwan and Singapore. She has presented conference papers including descriptions of NLA's Chinese collection, South Asian resources, the Braga Collection on the Portuguese in Asia, and the Williams Collection on foreign settlement in Japan.

Pauline has been active in many associations relating to librarianship and to Asia. She has been ACT Branch President of the Library Association of Australia, and is currently on the committee of the Association's Special Interest Group on Asia and the Pacific. She has also been active in the Asian Studies Association of Australia (ASAA), the International Association of Orientalist Librarians, the Japanese Studies Association of Australia (JSAA), the East Asian Library Resources Group of Australia (EALRGA), the Magellan Society, the South Asian Studies Association and several other organisations.

from Staff Bulletin, National Library of Australia
11/89 (5 April) 1989

Staff

Mrs Pauline Haldane retired in March after 10 years as Principal Librarian, Asian Collections (see previous page). Ms Pam Gatenby, NLA Standards Librarian, is currently Acting Principal Librarian, Asian Collections, for two months. Miss Kaoru Nakajima of the National Diet Library is expected to begin a two-year secondment at NLA in July.

Five members of staff of Asian Collections were presented with certificates for fifteen years service at NLA at a ceremony on 19 April. They were Fumika Clifford, Josefina David Dale, Andrew Gosling, Ilse Soegito and Nikki White.

Kent donation

Mr Michael Kent of the Adelaide Steamship Company, a member of National Library Council, is generously donating several major Asian items to the Library. They are The Portuguese in Asia, 1498 - c.1800, source material relating to Portuguese expansion in Asia on microfiche; Nogaku, a study of Noh drama, consisting of a reprinted learned journal illustrated in colour, originally published 1902-1921; Anniversary of 100 years of Phaya Anuman Rajadhon, the collected works of a major Thai writer; and Select works of Korean literature, a 72 volume collection of twentieth century works.

Major orders

Several expensive major items relating to East Asia have recently been ordered by the National Library. They include:

Asia and the Pacific. U.S. National Security Files, 1961-1969. University Publications of America. 25 mfm reels and printed guide.

Choson ilbo (Korean daily newspaper). 185 reels. 1920-1977. 1977+ issues held already.

Chung-kuo fang chih ts'ung shu (Local gazetteers of China). Series 3, Part 3: Chiang-hsi Province. 112 titles in 517 volumes (Section 1). Taipei: Ch'eng Wen. The Library holds the previously published series.

Kokka sodoinho. Tokyo: Nihon Tosho Senta. 5 volumes. Materials on the National Mobilisation Law (promulgated 1938, repealed 1945).

Kuang ming jih pao (Guangming Daily). November 1949 - February 1967. 44 reels. Peking: China National Microforms Import and Export Corporation. The Library already holds more recent issues.

Meiji koki sangyo hattatsushi shiryō. Dai 2-Ki 45 vols. Tokyo: Ryukei Shosha, 1989. Collected historical materials on the development of Japanese industry in the latter half of the 19th century and early 20th century. This continues a set of which the first part is already held.

Papers of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions (ABCFM). Research Publications. Unit 3, Missions to Asia, 1827-1919 (Borneo, Siam, Singapore, China, Japan). 164 mfm reels.

Visitors

On 9 March 1989 Mr Wang Meng, Chinese Minister of Culture, visited the Library together with other officials of the Chinese Ministry of Culture and Chinese Embassy. Mr Wang, a well-known author, signed copies of his works held in the Library's Chinese collection. Mr Zhang Zai, Chinese Ambassador, and other Embassy staff also visited the Library on 19 December 1988 for discussions on NLA's relations with China.

User services

The increasing use of East Asian materials both within the Library and through inter-library loans is very apparent. In the first nine months of the 1988/89 financial year there were 2579 readers in the Asian Collections Reading Room compared with 1622 in the equivalent period of 1987/88. Monograph loans were up by 7% and serial photocopies by over 30% during the same period.

Andrew Gosling
Chief Librarian, East Asia
Asian Collections
National Library of Australia

Australian National University Library

The Asian Studies Division has changed its name to Asia and Pacific Division, reflecting an increase in responsibility.

The ANU Library was happy to welcome Ms Gao Min from Peking University Library on 5th February, 1989. Gao Min will be with us for one year on a visiting fellowship awarded by the Chinese Universities Exchange Scheme. During her stay here she will pursue her particular interests in library management, automation and western language reference materials.

The ANU Library was sorry to see the departure, at the beginning of April, of Huang Yuhang, visiting librarian on exchange from the National Library of China. Xiao Huang, who had been here for one year, has also returned to Beijing.

Mr Y.S. Chan attended the Seminar on Sinological Studies held in Taipei, 1-3 December 1988, at which he delivered a paper in Chinese on the joys and frustrations of managing an Asian collection outside Asia. After the conclusion of the Seminar, he attended the 31st annual meeting of the Library Association of China (Taiwan), at which he delivered an address on international exchange. He was also honoured with life membership of the Association.

At the invitation of the Executive Deputy Director of the National Library of China, Y.S. proceeded to Beijing for consultations on various aspects of the organisation and functions of the National Library of China. He also gave two papers for senior administrators of Beijing libraries, one a comparison of librarianship as it is practised on the Mainland and on Taiwan, and the other on the positive and negative roles of the librarian.

Chen Wei-dong, a TAFE student in librarianship from the People's Republic of China, joined the Division in August 1988 for a period of 18 weeks work experience.

The Library was honoured to receive a visit from Mr Wang Meng, Minister of Culture for the People's Republic of China and distinguished writer in his own right, on Friday, 10th March. An exhibition of his works was mounted in conjunction with the visit. The Minister was accompanied by Mr Lu Sheng and Mr Zhang Beihua, both of the Division of American and Oceanic Affairs, Bureau of External Cultural Relations, Ministry of Culture of the PRC.

Susan Prentice
Senior Librarian, Asia and Pacific Division
Australian National University Library