

## JAPANESE LIBRARY FORUM INTRODUCTION

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The library forum held on 2 December 1999 during the Japanese Studies Association of Australia Conference at the University of Central Queensland in Rockhampton was a considerable success. It was attended by librarians and academics from Australia, Japan and other countries. The papers are included in this issue of the EALRGA Newsletter.

The Japanese Library Resources Group (JALRGA) of EALRGA organised the forum. Particular thanks are due to Eiko Sakaguchi as JALRGA representative for all the work she put into organising this session.

The forum was entitled "Japanese Information Resources: Australian and Global Networking Towards the 21st Century". The session was ably chaired by Eiko Sakaguchi of Monash University Library. Chooi Hon Ho of Monash spoke on the Melbourne Asian Research Libraries Consortium (MARLC) and Japanese information resources. Michelle Hall of the University of Melbourne Library reported on highlights of the Japanese Librarians' Workshop and Council on East Asian Libraries meetings she attended in Boston in March 1999. The Australia-Japan Foundation Library at the Australian Embassy in Tokyo was discussed by its librarian, Akiko Hisamatsu. Toshio Takagi of the Australian National University Library gave a lively presentation on Japan and the world-wide intelligence network, while Andrew Gosling outlined recent Japanese related developments at the National Library.

Given the positive response of those attending and the strong cooperation existing between librarians and scholars in the Japanese studies field, it is intended to have a similar session at the next JSAA conference in 2001.