

## FORUM EVALUATION COLLATED BY MICHELLE HALL

A lunchtime Library Forum was held at the Conference, which approximately 20 people attended. There were also several library staff in addition to the scheduled speakers. At the end of the session a feedback form was handed out to those who attended the Forum with the aim of making the Forum more interesting and useful to people at future conferences. Sixteen forms were returned (including those from library staff). The analysis of the feedback is as follows.

### **Question 1: How did you hear about this forum?**

Most respondents (8) heard about the Forum from the conference program. Four attended the first Forum in Melbourne and therefore anticipated this Forum. However, people also heard about the Forum from e-mail (2), the printed notice at the JSAA Registration (2), and the announcements made at lectures (2).

### **Question 2: What did you think of the forum?**

There was a very positive response, with most people finding the forum informative (7), interesting (7), and relevant (6). Only two people said they found it useful. Two people answered that the session was either not informative or not relevant to them.

### **Question 3: If you answered 5-8 for Q2, please provide us with some idea of what you would find informative or useful, to enable a more relevant forum next time.**

Most people did not answer this question, but one person noted that they were not a librarian, and would rather have learnt more information about databases for Japanese Studies.

### **Question 4: What did you expect from this forum?**

Of the respondents, most (7) wanted practical skills with lists of databases or websites for Japanese Studies, and demonstrations of them in the forum. Some (3) mentioned practical information of direct relevance to Japanese Studies, and others (2) wanted more discussion. Five people did not respond to this question.

### **Question 5: Any comment about this forum?**

Three people suggested that the forum be scheduled as part of the other conference sessions, and two wanted more practical sessions or information about searching techniques and perhaps an ongoing lists of

sites, updated regularly. Two people thanked us for the forum. Eight people did not answer this question.

## Conclusion

It is clear from the feedback forms that people are very interested in what we can offer them, but they need to have what suits them. They are less interested in library matters than they are in practical, useful, immediately relevant items, such as lists of databases and URLs.

I suggest we invite feedback again this year at the ASA conference, so we can see how people responded to the changes we have made. I hope we can continue to work together with EALRGA to improve the state of East Asian research in Australia.

## FEEDBACK FORM

### THE SECOND LIBRARY FORUM AT JSAA CONFERENCE, "JAPANESE INFORMATION RESOURCES : AUSTRALIAN AND GLOBAL NETWORKING TOWARDS THE 21ST CENTURY"

(Presented on Thursday, December 2, 12 - 1:30 p.m.)

#### Q1 How did you hear about this forum?

1. from the conference program
2. from colleges / Friends
3. I attended the first forum in Melbourne
4. Others
5. Email/Bulletin Boards
6. Printed notice at the JSAA Registration
7. Announcement at the lecture

#### Q2 What did you think of the forum?

1. informative
2. useful
3. interesting
4. relevant to me
5. not informative
6. not useful
7. uninteresting
8. not relevant to me

Q3 If you answered 5-6 to Q2, please provide us with some idea of what you would find informative or useful, to enable a more relevant forum next time.

Q4 What did you expect from this forum? (eg. more practical skills, more discussion, etc.)

Q5 Any comment about this forum? (eg. how this forum was run, how we can improve, etc.)

#### Optional

*Please complete the following section for future contact*

*Name*

*Student/Staff/Other*

*Your area of study*

*Your institution*

*Email Address*

Thank you very much for your contribution