

# AUSTRALIAN LIBRARIES' NEWS

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## NATIONAL LIBRARY OF AUSTRALIA

### Staffing

With the Chinese Card Cataloguing Conversion Project ceasing for budgetary reasons our two temporary staff Weining Yu (Ning) and Xiaozhen Huang (Zhen) were farewelled in early February. Their contribution to improving access to retrospective Chinese holdings is greatly appreciated. Ning has since returned as a volunteer working on a Chinese preservation project.

Following Moko Eade's retirement Yumiko Clifton is acting in her position and Chikako Murata has been taken on as a temporary part-timer in the Japanese Unit.

Mayumi Shinozaki was away for 3 weeks in March-April visiting Japan and attending the Association of Asian Studies (AAS) Conference and associated library meetings in Washington, DC.

### Refurbishment

The refurbishment of the Asian Collections staff and reading facilities is nearing completion. Reader services closed in the Asian Collections Reading Room just prior to Easter and opened in an area of the Main Reading Room on 2 April for about 6 weeks while the Asian Collections Reading Room has been refurbished.

### Major acquisitions

The Bronwyn Thomas Collection on China and the arts was briefly mentioned in the previous issue of this Newsletter.

This is an important donation of publications which had belonged to the prominent art teacher and gallery director Bronwyn Thomas (1923-2000). Her library of books and periodicals reflects her wide artistic interests and extensive travel in Asia, Europe and the Americas. The core of the collection relates to China, including a number of works in Chinese. While art is the major focus there are also publications on China's history, language and literature, reprints of early travels and translations of Chinese classical and modern authors.

The beautifully illustrated works on Chinese art include Yu Zhuoyun's *Palaces of the Forbidden City*; Li Zehou's *The path of beauty; a study of Chinese aesthetics; Masterworks of Ming and Qing painting from the Forbidden City*; Zhang Anzhi's *History of Chinese painting*; Joan Cohen's *The new Chinese painting, 1949-1986*; Thomas Lawton's *Chinese figure painting*; Chongnian Yan's *Beijing: the treasures of an ancient capital*; James Cahill's *Hills beyond a river: Chinese*

painting of the Yuan Dynasty, 1279-1368 and his *Parting at the shore* : Chinese painting of the early and middle Ming Dynasty, 1368-1580.

The publications have been donated to the National Library by Andrew and Michael Yeates, Bronwyn's sons. They have also presented their mother's papers which are housed in Manuscripts.

#### *War-time Japan :*

Several important works have been purchased relating to Japan's attempts to expand its territories leading to the Second World War. They include *Dai Nihon fukensetsu narabi chimei daiken* = *Atlas of Japan*, a US wartime reprint from 1944 of a Japanese language atlas containing 104 maps of Japan and Japanese-held territories in Taiwan, Korea, the South Pacific, Manchuria and China; an 8 volume reprint of two serial titles *Hoso nusu kaisetsu* and *Kokusaku hoso*, covering radio broadcasts in wartime Japan and originally published 1937-1943; and *Kokuryukai kankei shiryoshu*, a ten volume collection of documents on the ultranationalist group "Kokuryukai" or the Amur River Society, which promoted Japanese imperial expansion between 1900 and 1945.

#### *Buddhism :*

The Library's considerable strengths on many aspects of Buddhism have been augmented by recent acquisitions including *Fo jiao xiang guan bo shuo shi lun wen ti yao*, a Taiwan listing of abstracts of theses on Buddhism from 1963 to 2000; *Splendour in wood : the Buddhist monasteries of Burma*; and *Tang Xiantong nian ke ben Jin gang bo re bo luo mi jing*, a scroll reproduction from China of the Buddhist Vajracchedika sutra, believed to be the earliest published work in the world and dated 868 AD.

#### **Donations**

Professor Stewart Lone of the School of History, Australian Defence Force Academy donated a run of the microfilmed Japanese newspaper *Hirosaki Shinbun* from northern Japan, as well as monographs, serials and a microfilmed title on Japanese military history.

Professor Bill Newell of the University of Sydney presented further items on Chinese and Japanese anthropology.

#### **Visitors**

Distinguished visitors (in addition to those associated with the Treasures exhibition mentioned elsewhere in this issue) have included : Professor Zhang Kangsheng, INFOTERRA China National Focal Point, Beijing; Ms Lee Young-sook, Archivist with the Government Archives and Records Service, Korea; Mr Yang Liju, Principal, Shanghai Teachers College Primary; Mr Pedro Braga, Director, Information Technology, United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor and son of J.M. Braga whose collection on the Portuguese in Asia is held by the National Library; Professor Lee In-ho, President, Korea Foundation; HE Mr Song Young-shik, Ambassador of the

Republic of Korea; a group of officials and IT specialists from Korea including Mr Ryu Hee-Kyeong of the National Library of Korea; Mr Park Bong-Hyun, Korean author and publisher.

### **Funding from the Japan Foundation**

The National Library has recently heard from the Japan Foundation in Sydney that our application under their Library Support Program for 2002/2003 has been successful. The Japan Foundation has generously agreed to provide funding towards the cost of a major 23 volume set *Nihonjin no kaigai katsudo ni kansuru rekishiteki chosa* [ Historical investigation into Japanese activities overseas]. Originally an internal Japanese government document produced shortly after the Second World War it covers Japanese activities in occupied areas such as Korea, Taiwan, Manchuria, China, Southeast Asia and elsewhere between the late 19th century and 1945.

Andrew Gosling  
Chief Librarian, Asian Collections  
National Library of Australia  
23 April 2002

## **UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY LIBRARY NEWS**

### **1. Improved access to CJK materials**

The University of Sydney Library already has two modes of access for CJK materials, using either the EACC/CCCII code or Big5 code. These two search modes require the installation of special CJK softwares to display scripts in CJK records. We had been using the WinMASS software with Netscape and Window NT for the Online Catalogue at the East Asian Collection.

In early 2002, the East Asian Collection implemented a new additional Unicode mode to access CJK materials. We also changed the hardware and software for the Online Catalogue to Internet Explorer and Window 2000 which has the inbuilt global Input Method Editors for CJK input for searching. The merit is that CJK library users are able to view scripts in CJK records and also have the option of inputting CJK scripts for searching, without special front-end CJK software. It also means that library users can access CJK materials from more public terminals in the library system, including branch libraries, as well as from their offices and homes.

The East Asian Collection's Homepage is continuously improved and updated. Please have a look at

<<http://www.library.usyd.edu.au/libraries/eastasian/>>.

Your comments would be most welcomed and valued.

## 2. Special purchase of *Dunhuang bao zang*

The East Asian Collection is in the process of ordering:

*Dunhuang bao zang*, 140 volumes set. Published by Xin Wen Feng, Taipei, Taiwan. (US \$ 13,562)

*Dunhuang bao zang* is an essential collection of the treasury found at Dunhuang, the Mogao Grottoes in the northwest of China. The Mogao Grottoes is the unequalled treasury of Buddhist art existing in China as well as in the world. Additional to the murals and statues, numerous archeological objects and manuscripts were found at the Mogao Grottoes. *Dunhuang bao zang* contains a collection of data pertaining to the archeological objects and manuscripts of Dunhuang which have been brought to England, France, Japan, Russia and Taiwan. The set included 200,000 photos covering literary, historical, philosophical and medical items. Each photo has been closely examined and carefully catalogued. Most of these materials are published for the first time. The set is an exceptional important source for research for scholars, researchers and students, not limiting to the studies of Buddhism or Buddhist art, but also for inter-disciplinary studies in Chinese antiquities, art history, folk literature and legends.

The set is jointly purchased from 3 funds: Professor Chey's donation (in memory of Mr Hans Moon Lin Chey), Morrissey Fund and Gilbert Fund. The East Asian Collection is grateful to have received special donations. On behalf of the University of Sydney Library, I sincerely thank you for the bequest fund, in particular, Professor Jocelyn Chey's generous donation and continuous support of the East Asian Collection and also to her relatives and friends who generously contributed towards the purchase. We are confident the set will be well used and appreciated by academics and researchers.

## 3. New subscription of online database-- *Encyclopedia of Japan, Kodansha*

The library has subscribed to the updated online database, *Encyclopedia of Japan, Kodansha*, based on *Japan: An Illustrated Encyclopedia*, published in 1993. It covers a treasury of Japanese art, culture, history and society, as well as data on Japanese politics, government and economics. In addition to portraits, photographs, illustrations and prefectural maps, internet links are provided. This online database is well used by students of Japanese Studies and definitely is the preferred form over the print version.

## 4. Staffing

The half-time library assistant position for processing Chinese materials has been upgraded to a full-time continuing position. Sharon Tian who has previously worked at the East Asian Collection will return to the section on 6 June 2002. Sharon's contribution will be very much valued by both users and staff at the East Asian Collection.

## 5. Distinguished Visitors

The Library and the East Asian Collection are fortunate to receive international visitors constantly. Exchange of ideas and discussions are always invaluable. Visitors received so far this year are:

*29 Jan.2002:* Visited by Korean Council for University Education Delegation (40 visitors) escorted by a representative of the International Office, University of Sydney.

*12 March 2002:* Visit of Dr Lin Huiqing, Deputy Director General, Higher Education Department, Ministry of Education, China, accompanied by Mr Li Jianmin, Consul and Head of Education Office, and Mr Tong Yuanpeng, Consul Education Office, PRC Consulate.

*15 March 2002:* Publishing delegation (30 people) from Guangxi Province, China.

*22 March 2002:* Visit of Mr Sumizi, Head, Japan Foundation Tokyo, Mr Koji Okamoto, Director-General, Japan Foundation, Sydney, Ms Yasuko Uchida (Assistant Director, Japan Foundation, Sydney, accompanied by Professor Hugh Clarke and Dr Elise Tipton, Japanese Studies, University of Sydney.

*30 March 2002:* Visiting scholar, Professor Kye-man Lee, Chosun University.

*2 May 2002:* Delegation from Jiaotong University, Xian, China, escorted by a representative of the International Office, University of Sydney.

*14 May 2002:* Delegation of 10 visitors from Chaoyang University of Technology, Taiwan, escorted by a representative of the International Office, University of Sydney.

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East Asian Collection Librarian