



# EAL Newsletter

<http://link.library.utoronto.ca/eal/web/newsletter.pdf>

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Presented by the Staff of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

## Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library's Fall Event Highlights

By Hana Kim, Director, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

It has been a busy and exciting fall semester for the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (the EAL). In September, the East Asian Library was delighted to welcome our new and returning students and faculty as the University started a new academic year. The EAL's librarians have been busy going to various orientations and classes to conduct customized introduction sessions about library resources. The Library also organized its first lunchtime meet and greet with new graduate students of the Department of East Asian Studies. On October 5, the Library organized the Tibetan Studies Open House and Tour hosted by Hana Kim, EAL Director, and Dr. Luran Hartley, Tibetan Studies Librarian of Columbia University. On the same day, Dr. Hartley also provided a bibliography session for students and faculty specializing in Tibetan studies.

### Inside this issue:

- ◆ Cheng Yu Tung East Library's Fall Event Highlights
- ◆ Towards the Future of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library — An Interview with Hana Kim, Director of the EAL
- ◆ Tracing the Roots of the Mu Collection
- ◆ Notable Acquisitions
- ◆ Library and Staff Activities



(Image courtesy of the Royal Ontario Museum)

In addition to these activities, the EAL also hosted several public events, which are highlighted below.

### ***A Third Gender: Beautiful Youths in Japanese Prints, October 12 2016***

The Library invited Dr. Asato Ikeda, Assistant Professor of Art History at Fordham University. She was the curator of the critically acclaimed exhibition, *A Third Gender: Beautiful Youths in Japanese Prints and Paintings* at the Royal Ontario Museum (held from May 7 to November 27, 2016).

In this talk, Dr. Ikeda offered insight into the “wakashu”, also known as young companions – a widely accepted third gender during the Edo-period (1601-1868). She examined the role of wakashu and explored how the Edo-period gender and sexuality system can be understood from a contemporary North American perspective. The session was moderated by Dr. Dai Kojima, Postdoctoral Fellow, York University.

### ***Poetry Reading & Ohaengsi Contest, October 13 2016***

The EAL featured a “Poetry Reading & Ohaengsi Contest” in celebration of the University of Toronto’s 2016 Korea Week (The theme of this year’s Korea Week was 'Flavour of Korea: Culture, Language and Cuisine'). A local Korean Canadian poet, Dae-Tong Huh was invited to read his poems. He was joined by Korean language learners who read poems that they had composed. Please refer to Julia Chun’s article on page 12 for further details about this event.

### ***A Dream of Reconciliation, October 28 2016***

To celebrate the launch of book *Gently to Nagasaki* by Joy Kogawa, who is one of Canada's most celebrated authors, the EAL presented a conversation between Ms. Kogawa, Olivia Chow (former MP and public figure) and Bishop Patrick Yu (Anglican Church of Canada). This memoir, *Gently to Nagasaki*, is an intimate exploration inviting you on a spiritual pilgrimage of forgiveness and resilience. It chronicles Nisei writer Kogawa's remarkable life from her birth in Vancouver, BC, to the WWII internment of her family along with the entire coastal BC population of 22,000 Japanese Canadians, to the fight for Redress and her life afterwards, including being awarded the Order of Canada in 2006.

Ms. Kogawa discussed her personal experiences of overcoming hate, fear, and the various evils that have plagued her life since writing her acclaimed novel, *Obasan*. Bishop Patrick Yu and Olivia Chow likewise used their expertise in public service and social justice to deliver a renewed sense of hope to all those who attended the event.



The dialogue between Joy Kogawa (left), Olivia Chow (middle), and Bishop Patrick Yu (right) at the EAL



### ***Yi T'oebye on True Confucian Learning and Self-Cultivation, November 18 2016***

The EAL hosted a lecture co-sponsored by the EAS Lecture Series & the Lee Chair in Chinese Thought and Culture, entitled “*Yi T'oebye on True Confucian Learning and Self-Cultivation*”, which was given by Dr. Edward Y. J. Chung. Dr. Chung is a professor and Director of Asian Studies at the University of Prince Edward Island. Dr. Chung discussed the heart of Yi T'oebye's thought by focusing on his experience and interpretation of true Confucian learning and self-cultivation according to the Chasŏngnok. The talk was based on Dr. Chung's latest book, *A Korean Confucian Way of Life and Thought: The Chasŏngnok (Record of Self-reflection)* by Yi Hwang (T'oebye) (Korean Classics: Philosophy and Religion series, The University of Hawaii Press, 2016). This was the first time that the EAL played host to the Department of East Asian Studies' Lecture Series.



Dr. Edward Y. J. Chung (right) and Professor Vincent Shen (left) at the lecture

### ***Book Launch: Cold War Ruins, November 21 2016***

The final public event of our fall semester was the book launch for *Cold War Ruins: Transpacific Critique of American Justice and Japanese War Crimes*, by Prof. Lisa Yoneyama, joint Professor of the Women and Gender Studies Institute and the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Toronto. The EAL hosted and co-sponsored the event along with the Centre for the Study of Korea at the Asian Institute.



Professor Lisa Yoneyama (middle), Dr. Jodi Kim (left), and Professor Jeook Song (right) at the book launch of *Cold War Ruins*

Yoneyama's third solo book, *Cold War Ruins* (Duke University Press, 2016), explores the trans-Pacific entanglements of knowledge production about the Cold War, the post-conflict administration of transitional justice, and the failure of decolonization. Dr. Jodi Kim, Associate Professor of Ethnic Studies at the University of California, Riverside, served as a discussant, and Prof. Jeosook Song, Acting Director of the Centre for the Study of Korea at U of T and a Professor in the Department of Anthropology, chaired the session. This event drew more than 70 attendees, including many U of T and York University faculty members and graduate students.

All of the public events were very well received by the University community as well as the local community. The Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library will continue to strive to offer exciting and thought-provoking events to our community in collaboration with faculty and students. ■

# Towards the Future of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

## - An Interview with Hana Kim, Director of the EAL

Interviewed by Lucy Gan, Newsletter Editor & Information Services Librarian, the East Asian Library



Hana Kim has returned from the University of British Columbia (UBC) to rejoin the staff of the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library (the EAL) at the University of Toronto (U of T) in her new capacity as the EAL Director. Between 2003 and 2014, Hana had previously served as Korean Studies Librarian at the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library. In that role, she was instrumental in building the Korean collection at U of T. Between 2012 and 2014, she also served two periods as Acting Head of the EAL before moving to the University of British Columbia to head its Asian Library. Hana has a BA of Education and an MA in Library and Information Studies. She was a participant in the 2013 Leadership and Career Development Program of the Association of Research Libraries (the ARL). The EAL Newsletter editor recently sat down with Hana for an interview, in which she discussed her visions for the future of East Asian librarianship, and the EAL.



Hana Kim, Director of Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library, University of Toronto

**Interviewer: How does it feel coming back to Toronto and U of T?**

**Hana:** Coming back to Toronto is really like coming back to my home. I started my career as an academic librarian at the University of Toronto back in 2003, and stayed in Toronto with my family for 11 years prior to moving to Vancouver. During that time, I devoted my passion, librarianship and career to U of T. All of these make me feel like I'm coming back home now. Before, I focused more on the area of Korean Studies. I had a lot of fun building the Korean collection and working along with my amazing colleagues. Now I am back as the head of the EAL with different responsibilities. This new role will enrich my experience for sure, but it also gives me a sense of responsibility and a desire for me to work for and contribute more to the community. I am constantly learning in this new position.

**Interviewer: Before coming back to U of T, you worked as head of the Asian Library at the University of British Columbia for one and half years. Regarding your term of service at the UBC Asian Library, what is, in your view, your legacy that you value most?**

**Hana:** Three major contributions come to mind. One is collection management. When I arrived at UBC's Asian Library, a lot of collections were not yet inventoried. Therefore, we planned a three-year project to work with Technical Services, with special funding, to go through almost every single item in the library. We identified some really valuable collections, so librarians and patrons were able to gain a clearer sense of what we really have in the library. We also worked along with the University of Washington and a Chinese rare-book expert from Beijing University to identify and highlight hidden treasures in UBC's collection of Chinese rare books. This project was funded by a grant from the Council on Library and Information Resources (CLIR). Because the materials had never been adequately described, the value of the collection was not fully recognized by the library and academics before. This international collaboration has really attracted the attention of scholars whose research interest is in the Ming or Qing dynasties, and our project also received help and support from these scholars.

The second contribution that I would like to mention is team building. When I was at the UBC Asian Library, some of my colleagues became seriously ill, and had to take long-term sick leave. We provided much support to them, but at same time, we had to deal with severe short-staffing, and needed to make the library run as usual. Although it was difficult to operate the library with such tight staffing, we pulled everything together with our most supportive and hard-working staff members. In a relatively short period of time, we built trust and respect — true teamwork. For me, I was most grateful to our team at that time. That is a wonderful memory that I will cherish forever.

The final contribution that I would like to share is that I helped shape the vision for the library space. First, I worked with the UBC Library Development Office, the local community, staff, faculty, and students for the space renewal project of the Asian Library as well as the Asian Centre building. We were also able to identify key donors to support the building project. In the end, we came up with a good picture of how the Asian Library's space should be transformed to move it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

**Interviewer: Do you have any reflections on academic librarianship as a profession? What do you think are the current trends for libraries, East Asian Libraries, or even East Asian Studies?**

**Hana:** Traditionally, academic libraries are more related to bibliographical work. Although the role of the academic librarian remains fundamentally unchanged — that is to support our institutions' research, learning, and teaching, we will need to be proactive about the changes that are occurring in technology, in research, teaching and learning. We should keep ourselves up to date with current trends in our field, such as digital humanities, research data management, digital preservation, etc.

I also think that as area librarians, we need to have an in-depth understanding about the subject area. Without knowing much about the context of the subject area, it is really hard to understand our faculty members' needs. Besides that, constant communication is also very important. It is always helpful to know what our faculty members and their graduate students are working on right now. Nowadays, the number of research resources is exploding and there are countless resources in various subject areas. But many faculty members may not have enough time to explore them in full. Thus the responsibility of librarians is to be there as a guide for them, directing them towards certain resources or tools which they may find helpful.

It is also important to be more creative and innovative. We can work more collaboratively and directly with our faculty members. For example, we can introduce different kinds of events. I am thinking about not only library lectures, but also other more creative events. When I was with UBC, we came up with the *Living Library Program* idea, where we had people share their personal stories of migration, or speak about their own professional areas. The speaker could be either a local community member or a scholar. There would be a discussion following on the theme or topic of the event. This project was rather successful. By this example, I mean that, if we can keep

on innovating, the role of libraries and librarians can be even more significant than we think. For area studies librarians, it is also crucial to have a transnational perspective, not only focusing on a certain country or a region, but also trying to go over the borders.

**Interviewer: If I am right, you are the first EAL head with a Korean (Studies) background in CEAL (the Council of East Asian Libraries, Association of Asian Studies).**

**Hana:** Haha, that's what I have been informed of by my CEAL colleagues! I mean, when I got the appointment to be head of the UBC Asian Library, people told me that I was the first EAL head with Korean background.





**Interviewer:** Then what unique perspectives do you think you can bring with this background to your current appointment as head of the EAL?

**Hana:** This is a question people easily come up with -- with your specific background, what can you bring to your role as the head of the library? But I think the core quality of being a head in such a multicultural and multi-disciplinary environment should be the ability to work with all, and to cross borders. It is really important to support every single area. No matter whether they are Chinese, Japanese, or Korean resources, they come together as the East Asian collections. Different leaders may have different visions or styles, but for me, I would try to envision what the East Asian Library can do better as a whole, rather than in certain particular subject areas. Also, I hope to foster the formation of a more rounded team — that is what I am looking for. As head of the East Asian Library, I would not emphasize any certain language, but want to bring all East Asian collections together and grow them to be among the top.

**Interviewer: What is your vision for the EAL in the UTL system, or among peer EALs in Canada and the U.S.?**

**Hana:** Within the UTL system, I think we could be better highlighted. Although everybody knows there is this East Asian Library in Robarts, compared with libraries like the Fisher Rare Book Library, which is focused on special collections as we are, we could be better highlighted among the U of T libraries and be better promoted to our users. The promotional tools that we are currently developing at the EAL will help us to become better recognized. My vision for the EAL in the UTL system is being the first go-to-place for faculty, students and staff in the field of East Asian studies.

In Canada, collection size-wise, we are slightly behind the UBC Asian Library. That's because their Asian Library also houses its South Asian and Southeast Asian collections. However, the size and scope of our CJK collections are bigger than those of UBC. Also, as I know about the budget system at the UBC Library, I am proud that U of T has a much stronger budget base. Therefore, from my perspective, I can be rather firm that our library is the top EAL in Canada. However, compared to our peers in the United States, we really still need to keep up. We need to make more efforts to grow our research collections and seek more opportunities to collaborate with the EALs in the States. It is crucial to have closer connections with our peer EALs in the States.

**Interviewer: What are the challenges and opportunities facing the East Asian Library?**

**Hana:** Obviously, one challenge is money. Our budget is limited, and we need to focus more on special collections. Every institution has its basic collections, but what makes a library unique is its special collections. Therefore, we need to balance different needs, and the spending on digital resources, special collections and so on.

Another challenge concerns Asian vendors. China, Japan and Korea have different kinds of products, but the quality of the products varies. Also, the vendor service and support that comes along with these products usually doesn't meet comparable standards in North America. I think vendors in East Asian countries need to improve their services, rather than just increasing the prices of their products. Part of the challenge is due to their monopoly, as there really are not many service providers or competition over there. If a vendor increases the price of their products, we have almost no option but to accept it.

In terms of opportunities, with the increasing number of digital collections, our reliance on the physical collection is expected to become lessened, and the library can have more space for other functions. The new space can be used to invite more people to visit our library. A library is not only about the collection, but also about people. Therefore, this could be an opportunity for us to rethink about our space and service model. For example, we can think about how to communicate with our user groups in designing a more open and user-friendly space.

**Interviewer: The collection and service scope of the EAL have been expanding in recent years. For example, we have recently started expanding into the area of Tibetan Studies. Is this a one-time decision, or a general trend for the future of this library?**

**Hana:** Because we are the East Asian Library, we serve library stakeholders, most of whom are in the area of East Asian Studies or represent the East Asian community. Our library always responds to local needs. We have expanded our collection into Tibetan Studies because Tibet is considered part of East Asia too. At this University, there are many research activities on Tibet by faculty and students in the Departments of Religious Studies, East Asian Studies, and so on. Therefore, there is a need and demand for the UTL to expand into this area. As our library already has some collections from or about Tibet, it becomes an obvious direction for the EAL to be more deeply involved in.

In terms of the future, there is some conversation ongoing about expanding the South Asian collection at U of T. UTM (the University of Toronto Mississauga) and UTSC (the University of Toronto Scarborough) now already have some South Asia-related programs. On the St. George campus, there are also many South Asian courses and programs. The whole UTL system may need to respond to this particular need, and the EAL, as a departmental library of the UTL, is involved in the related talks. It is still far from being clear if the East Asian Library will embrace this area. But if we need to do that, we may expand our space and staff to cope with such expansions of scope.

**Interviewer:** I am also interested in knowing about your ideas concerning the impact of digital resources on our collection. We are acquiring more CJK e-resources, and our users are embracing e-books, e-journals and other e-collections. But our traditional acquisition model based on print books remains in place. Do you foresee any changes that may disturb the current balance? Why or why not? And how will this impact our local choices?

**Hana:** There are two models to look at when dealing with this issue. One is a consultation and evidence-based model, and the other a budget-oriented model. Firstly, I want to point out that it really depends on our faculty members' needs --- what materials they really want and what forms of resources will really work for them. If the form of resources we choose does not meet the needs of their research, it then is the wrong choice. In this sense, we must consult with our faculty in order to know what they really need. So every single choice should be based on consultation and the evidence that we collect.

Concerning the balance between print and electronic resources, many primary research resources are valued by the EAS research community and are now available in either electronic databases or as printed materials. Therefore, it is really crucial for the library to balance needs and our limited budget between these two areas. We can't afford to go in only one direction. For example, if an electronic database is really expensive, then having printed materials would become our option. You have to consider many factors when you make a decision. Our library is also supporting teaching and research across a wide range of EAS-related programs, so we also want to balance our collection decisions with that in mind. So there truly are a lot of things to consider.

**Interviewer:** Our library is a lively member of the U of T East Asian Studies community, as well as the Asian community in Toronto. What is your vision for the EAL concerning our liaison and outreach initiatives?

**Hana:** In future, more collaboration and communication will be necessary and this is quite important. Within the University, there are the Department of East Asian Studies, the Munk Centre of Global Affairs with its Asian Institute, Global Asia Studies at Scarborough, as well as many other programs in religious studies, environmental studies, arts, history, and political science. We need to identify where our stakeholders are and approach them proactively to remind them that we are here for them. We also need to develop partnership with faculty members and Asian student groups by putting on events, creating exhibitions, celebrating achievements, and even producing publications together with them. Outside the campus, I think we should reach out to external institutions who do similar activities as we do. We can form partnerships to collaborate with them for our common goals. For example, the Toronto Public Library has just launched the *Chinese Canadian Archive* project to collect and preserve resources on Chinese Canadians. Perhaps we should meet with TPL to learn more about this project and present our library as a stakeholder and explain to them what we can do here, and how the two organizations may possibly collaborate for shared goals. ■

# Tracing the Roots of the Mu Collection

By Stephan Qiao, Chinese Studies Librarian, the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library

Most of the Chinese rare books in the Cheng Yu Tung East Asian Library belong to what is known as the Mu Collection (慕氏藏書), originally a private collection of scholarly books belonging to Mu Xuexun (慕學勳, 字玄父 1880-1929). Mr. Mu was born in Penglai County (蓬萊縣), Shandong Province. He graduated from Peiyang University (北洋大學) in Tianjin, and worked as the Chinese Secretary at the German Legation in Beijing for seventeen years (1912-1929). He spent over twenty-five years building up his personal library, which consisted of roughly 40,000 volumes of books. Some of these are quite unique and rare materials. Until recently, we knew very little else about the collector besides the information above. However, in September, 2016, Mu Xin (慕欣), the great-granddaughter of Mu Xuexun, paid a visit to the EAL. Thanks to her and her aunt Mu Tingben (慕婷本) in Beijing, we now know more about Mu Xuexun, his family, career and the book collection. Therefore, some previous information about the Mu Collection may now need to be rewritten.

We now know that Mr. Mu Xuexun also had another name, Mu Yuanfu (慕元甫), and his direct decedents include his elder son Mu Yong (慕庸, 字首一), younger son Mu Dingyi (慕定一), and daughter Mu Renlan (慕紉蘭).



Undated photo of Mu Xuexun, his wife and Mu Shouyi, Mu Dingyi

After graduating from Peiyang University, Mu Xuexun served as the secretary of the German Legation in Beijing from 1912 on. While starting to build his personal library, he also was engaged in cultural, publishing and business activities. As early as 1902, he was one of the first of a small group of people working with Ying Lianzhi (英斂之), a Catholic Manchu aristocrat involved in founding the newspaper *Ta Kung Pao* (大公報) in Tianjin. This news-paper has been recognized as the oldest active Chinese language newspaper in China to hold to the principle of helping China become a modern and democratic nation. Mu Xuexun engaged in scholarly communication and exchange with some scholars at the time. Around 1920, he corresponded with Professor Chen Yuan (陳垣), engaging in a discussion of literature on Catholic churches in Japan. He participated in the activities of The Christian Literature Society for China (廣學會 1887-1951), and was involved in Christian publication projects of the society. There is record of his involvement in the Peking Community Service Group Federation (北京地方服務團) and Tianjin Social and Education Weekly Foundation (天津社會教育星期報基金), engaging in charity work to help the local poor.

Mu Xuexun's own publication projects included several known titles, such as *Bai tang shi you yan xing lu* (柏堂師友



言行錄) by Qing dynasty author Fang Cunzhi (方存之), *Ren zi ji lue* (忍字輯略) by Qing era author Zhu Xizhen (朱錫珍), and a catalogue of his own book collection, *Mu shi cong shu mu* (慕氏藏書目), as well as *Greek Egyptian inscriptions* (希臘埃及時代之墓銘) by D. R. O'Toole, translated into Chinese by Li Taifen (李泰綦). Among his business activities, he served as a board member of Beijing's first modern banks: Boyi Bank Co. Ltd. (溥益銀號) in 1919, and Tong Fu Bank Co. Ltd. (同福銀號) in 1921.



Mu Xuexun (second from left), Mei Lanfang (five from left) and their friends in Beijing

When Mu Xuexun passed away in 1929, he bequeathed his fine book collection to his son Mu Yong, but as Mu Yong, along with his good friend Huo Mingzhi (霍明志), was in a rush to prepare a Chinese antiquities exhibition to tour Europe and North America, he had no choice but to sell the library. The only condition attached to the sale was that the library must be kept intact in a research institution. Huo Mingzhi and Mu Yong's exhibition of antiquities was recorded in a French-language publication *Prevues des antiquities de Chine*, published in Beijing in 1930.

In 1933, while on a trip to Beijing to purchase artifacts for the Royal Ontario Museum, Canadian Anglican Bishop William C. White (1873 -1960) learned of the Mu collection, and the conditions for its sale. He immediately made an offer to purchase the entire collection, which consists of roughly 40,000 volumes of books. They include one volume from the Song dynasty, 98 volumes from the Yuan dynasty, over 200 titles published during the Ming dynasty, and over 300 titles published during the Qing dynasty prior to the sixtieth year of Emperor Qianlong's reign (1795). Bishop White and other U of T faculty proposed naming the collection "the University of Toronto Chinese Library". The opening ceremony of H. H. Mu Chinese Library was held on November 5th, 1937, at the Royal Ontario Museum's new structure adjacent to its East Asiatic Galleries.

Unfortunately, Mu Yong could not keep other items related to the Mu Collection for long, such as his father's documents and fine wooden boxes of rare books. Most of those remaining items were destroyed during the Culture Revolution. Being contacted by Mr. Mu's descendants after so many decades, we feel very fortunate to be able to add more details to this very important chapter of our library's history. ■

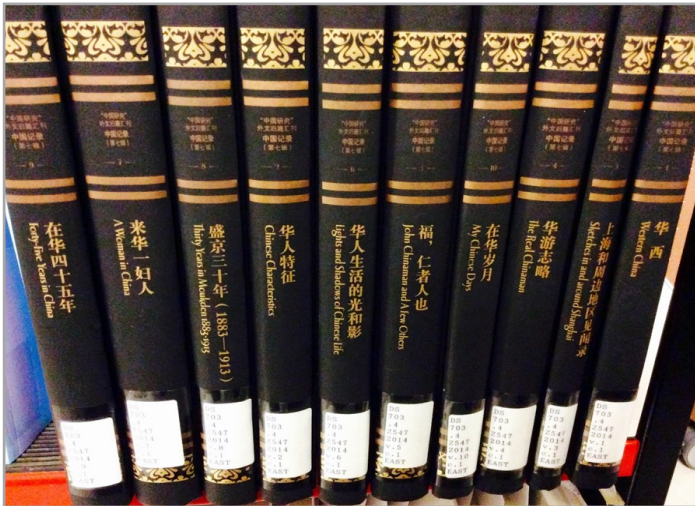
# Notable Acquisitions

## CHINESE TITLES:

“Zhongguo yan jiu” wai wen jiu ji hui kan

“中国研究” 外文旧籍汇刊

Call number: DS703.4.Z547



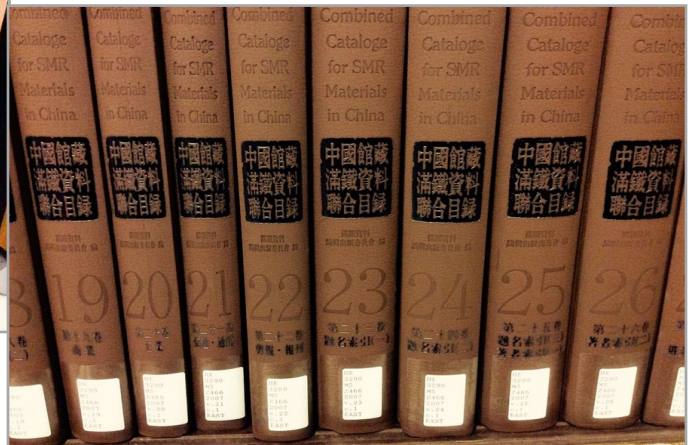
The East Asian Library has acquired the multi-volume collection entitled “*Zhongguo yan jiu*” wai wen jiu ji hui kan (Old books in China studies in foreign languages ‘中国研究’ 外文旧籍汇刊), edited by Li Guoqing 李国庆 and He Linxia 何林夏 and published by Guangxi Normal University Press (Guangxi shifan daxue chubanshe 广西师范大学出版社), which includes three series: *China records*, *China studies*, and *Chinese language teachings and studies*. The series *China records* collects memoirs, travels and diaries of Westerners who had traveled and lived in China; the series *China studies* collects foreign studies on Chinese politics, economy, philosophy, culture, foreign policy, society, and military; and, the series *Chinese language teaching and studies* collects dictionaries and textbooks written or compiled by Westerners. Although the purpose of this publication is to help scholars in China to better understand China Studies abroad, the series is also conducive for studies on the history of China Studies in general. (G. Zhao)

Zhongguo guan cang Man tie zi liao lian he mu lu

中國館藏滿鐵資料聯合目錄

Call Number: HE3290.M5 Z466 2007

The East Asian Library has acquired the 30-volume book entitled *Zhongguo guan cang Man tie zi liao lian he mu lu* 中國館藏滿鐵資料聯合目錄 (A Combined Bibliography of Chinese Library Materials on the South Manchuria Railway), published by Dongfang chubai zhongxin 东方出版中心 in Shanghai, China.



The South Manchuria Railway (Nan Man tie lu 南滿鐵路) was initially built in 1898-1903 by Imperial Russia as the southern branch of the Chinese Eastern Railway, in accordance with the 1896 secret treaty and the 1898 lease convention between Qing China and Russia in the aftermath of the First Sino-Japanese War. After the Russo-Japanese War, Imperial Japan seized control of the railway south of Changchun, and renamed it the South Manchurian Railway. The Japanese authorities established one of the world's largest intelligence agencies at that time, with 2,000 agents who, for more than 40 years, conducted exhaustive investigations in China and created more than 50,000 reports and archives, combined with 30,000 archival items on the South Manchuria Railway itself, and about 300,000 other reference materials, making it one of the largest document repositories in the world in the first half



# Notable Acquisitions

of the 20th century. It is thus extremely valuable for research on modern Chinese history, world history, Sino-Japanese relations and the history of the World War II. (G. Zhao)

## KOREAN TITLE:

**Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Korea (1882-1905)**

**Chuhan Miguk Kongsagwan, Yöngsagwan kirok**

**주한미국공사관 · 영사관기록**

**Call number: DS915.15 .U55 2000 v. 1-20 (20 volumes)**

The East Asian Library has acquired the 20-volume



Bo Ku Nyo Koan, Women's Hospital of the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society (W.F.M.S.). 1905.

set titled *Despatches from U.S. Ministers to Korea 1882-1905* (Chuhan Miguk Kongsagwan, Yöngsagwan kirok) compiled and edited by the Institute of Asian Culture Studies at Hallym University. This collection is composed of official records belonging to the Foreign Service Posts of the Department of State, U.S. Legation in Korea from 1882 to 1905. It includes newspaper clippings, official documents and certificates, and the "L & C Received (or Sent)" series, which are mostly correspondence received or sent from legation and consular officials and "Miscellaneous Received or Sent". These communications are historical sources for understanding Korean-American relations, as well as social condi-

tions in the late Chosŏn period. They show information about social conditions at the time, such as a cholera report detailing the poor condition of streets and many deaths in the summer of 1902.

The table of contents in each volume includes document date, a short content note in English or translated into English, sender and receiver of the communication, and page numbers. All records reproduced in this set are arranged in five series divided by legate, starting with the first American legate Lucius H. Foote in 1883, and continuing to the eighth, Edwin V. Morgan in 1905. (J. Chun)

## JAPANESE TITLE:

**グロテスク全10巻(叢書エログロナンセンス第一期) + 補巻**

**Call number: BH301 .G74 G87**

The East Asian Library has recently acquired the reprinted edition of the periodical *Grotesque* (1928-1931), the most recognizable magazine edited and published by Umehara Hokumei. Umehara was a Japanese writer, editor and a leading figure of the eroguronan-sensu culture in the early Showa period. During the approximate 2-year run of the magazine, *Grotesque* was censored numerous times, but to fend off the authorities' oppression, Hokumei continuously changed the publisher's name, from Gurotesuku Sha to Bungei Shijo Sha to Dankikan Shokyoku, to name a few. He also became famous for issuing an ad in the form of an obituary of *Grotesque* at the time the magazine was banned. This is an extremely valuable resource that connects the subculture of the time to historical events such as the Great Kanto Earthquake and the 15-year Pacific War. The 11-multi-volume set, like other EAL periodicals, can be retrieved from storage for circulation. (F. Rocha) ■





# Library & Staff Activities

## Poetry Reading and 오행시 (Five-Line Poem) Contest

On October 13<sup>th</sup>, the East Asian Library hosted its second annual Korean Week event titled “Poetry Reading and 오행시 (Ohaengsi) Contest” at the Current Resources Centre. This event welcomed local poet Dae-Tong Huh to read from his selection of poems in Korean and English. The poet introduced his own work, “Let Us Welcome Peace”, a poem about advocating peace and unity through writing.

In his short talk, Mr. Huh shared his life as a Korean war survivor and the founder of the nonprofit publishing house Variety Crossing, and spoke about the importance of literary translation and poetry, defining the latter as the most creative, powerful and influential medium in understanding different cultures and literatures. The poet also encouraged the audience to express themselves through words by calling the event, “a gathering of the future poets, essayists, novelists and writers, brought together to share in the passion of hearing what we each have to say”. The library was fortunate to have Mr. Huh share his love of poetry, and we look forward to seeing his first novel published soon.



In the second part of the event, the Korean Studies Librarian kicked off the poem challenge by announcing the topic for the 오행시 (five-line poem) as the following: 한글의 향기 (the fragrance of Han'gul). Close to 50 participants in teams had to create Korean poems in a particular way, such that the first syllables of each of the poem's five lines, when read vertically, formed the phrase 한글의 향기. Teams were given 30 minutes to complete their five line poems, which were then judged by Korean language instructors. Dr. Yu-jeong Choi explained the five important criteria that make a good five-line poem, which are: coherence of the content, creativity, accuracy of grammar and spelling, relatedness to the topic, and completeness of performance and presentation. The instructors also joined different teams to help students engage in their creative writing process in Korean. Students were encouraged to use online reference materials to help formulate words and phrases in Korean. At the end of the event, all teams presented and performed their works and the top three poems were announced and rewarded by Professor Kyoungrok Ko. This event showed that poetry can be an enjoyable vehicle for learning the Korean language, and it transformed the library into a haven for literary engagement. We wish to host many more events similar to this and foster further appreciation for language and literature.

Lastly, the library would like to thank Mr. and Mrs. Huh and all Korean language faculty and instructors for making this event possible, student volunteers from EASSU and GLA for helping to organize the event, and as always, the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Toronto for their generous support. (J. Chun) ■

# Library & Staff Activities

## Searching for JapanKnowledge Contents Made Easy!

Fabiano Rocha, Japan Studies Librarian, along with colleagues from Yale, Stanford and University of Washington in St Louis University libraries worked on a cooperative cataloguing project to enhance the records of the JapanKnowledge database. In the past, we were only able to search for contents within the JapanKnowledge interface. Thanks to this collaborative effort, JapanKnowledge's titles are now searchable in the University of Toronto Libraries catalogue (<https://onesearch.library.utoronto.ca/>). The table on the left side shows what type of information has been added to the records to facilitate discovery.

Original record	Record after Enhancement
Title: 幕末外交談 Author: 田辺太一 Editor: 坂田精一	Title: 幕末外交談 Title: Bakumatsu gaikōdan Author: 田辺太一 Author: Tanabe Taichi Editor: 坂田精一 Editor: Sakata Seiichi Series title: 東洋文庫 ; 69, 72 Series title: Tōyō bunko ; 69, 72 Subject heading: Japan—Foreign Relations—To 1868 Subject Heading: Japan—History—Restoration, 1853-1870

In conducting searches, the following improvements can be noticed:

1. Transliterated (Romanized) fields: Users are able to search for materials in the transliterated (Romanized) form. For instance, you may know that the name of the author was “Sakata Seiichi,” but you may not know exactly what the Japanese characters for his name are. The characters for Sakata either be 酒田, 坂田, 阪田, or 佐方. Similarly, the characters for Seiichi could either be 清一, 誠一, or 聖一, and so on.

2. Addition of subject headings: The addition of subject headings facilitates discovery of materials, especially when users are not looking for a specific titles but resources on a particular topic. That means that *Bakumatsu gaikōdan* now appears as one of the search results listed under the same subject headings: “Japan—Foreign Relations—To 1868”, or “Japan—History—Restoration, 1853-1870”.

3. Direct links to the entry in JapanKnowledge: Direct links are provided under “Holdings” in the online catalogue to give you direct access to JapanKnowledge online contents.

We hope that these enhancements to the catalogue records improve your chances to discover the contents of JapanKnowledge. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Fabiano Rocha, Japan Studies Librarian at [fabiano.rocha@utoronto.ca](mailto:fabiano.rocha@utoronto.ca). (F. Rocha)



## Lynne Kutsukake wins Canada-Japan Literary Awards 2016 (English Category)

Lynne Kutsukake, our former Japan Studies Librarian, is the recipient of this year's Canada-Japan Literary Awards in the English category, for her debut novel *The Translation of Love* (Knopf Canada, 2016).

The Canada-Japan Literary Awards recognize literary excellence by Canadian writers and translators who are writing, or translating from Japanese to French or English, on Japan, Japanese themes, or themes that promote mutual understanding between Japan and Canada. The East Asian Library would like to warmly congratulate Lynne on this remarkable achievement! (F. Rocha) ■





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