

NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST ASIA LIBRARY AT YALE

General Information: (203) 432-1790 Web: <http://www.library.yale.edu/eastasian>

Exhibit Celebrates the History of Yale's East Asia Library

By Ellen Hammond

The history of the East Asia Library* at Yale is featured in an exhibit on display in the Sterling Memorial Library nave through October 31. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the East Asian collections, which were first organized under a specialist curator in 1907. The exhibit traces the story of East Asian books at Yale and then focuses on two individuals who had a major role in the formation of the collections, Asakawa Kan'ichi and Yung Wing.

The story of East Asian books at Yale actually goes back over 150 years to 1855, when the American Oriental Society arranged to keep its books on the Yale College Library premises. The first documented addition of East Asian books to Yale's own collection came in 1868, when a Miss Myra Higgins of White Lake, Michigan donated two Japanese woodblock-print works about the Ansei earthquake. In the same year, several issues of a serial published by the missionary press in Guangzhou (Canton), *The Chinese Repository*, were also donated. (This work is in English, but a Chinese imprint, nevertheless.) In 1873, Yale College Librarian Addison Van Name, who studied Chinese, Japanese, and Korean and devoted his scholarly work to the "orient," raised money to buy both Chinese and Japanese books. By 1876 he had managed to acquire 2,700 volumes from Japan through various connections, making Yale the first university in the U.S. to actively collect East Asian books.

Chinese books were first received by the Library in 1878 and the exhibit tells the story of Yale graduate Yung Wing's promise to donate his personal library if Yale would establish a lectureship in Chinese. Drawing on the research of Professor (Emeritus) Beatrice Bartlett, the exhibit documents the story of Yung's lobbying effort and displays some of the rare editions ultimately donated by

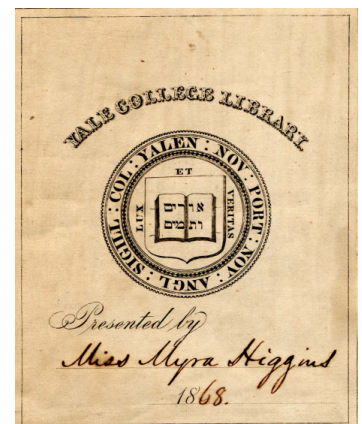
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Exhibit Celebrates History of East Asia Library	1
Recent Acquisitions of Chinese Digital Resources	2
Komojo/Kuzushiji Workshop at Yale	3
2007 Tenri Antiquarian Materials Workshop	3
Chinese Acquisitions Highlights	4
New Visiting Librarians	4
Japanese Acquisitions Highlights	5

Yung. It also highlights the career of Asakawa Kan'ichi, who came to Yale as an instructor in history and Curator of the Chinese and Japanese Collections in 1907. Asakawa's energetic collection development efforts during the first forty years of the East Asia Library's history and his work with the Yale Association of Japan to secure rare books from China, Japan, and Korea, account for much of the depth of the collections now at Yale.

*Yale Library's East Asian collections have been known by a variety of names: starting as the Chinese and Japanese Collections (despite the early presence of Korean books), soon after the war, they became the Far Eastern Collections (later, Collection). In 1963, the name was changed to the East Asian Collections, and subsequently also lost the plural form. In 2002, the collections became known as the East Asia Library.

The bookplate from the first documented East Asian book to enter the collections at Yale. It was one of two Japanese block-printed books donated by the daughter of a Yale alumni.



By Sarah Elman

Sarah Elman just completed a two-year term as head of the Chinese Digital Resources Group in the East Asia Library. Due to the boom in electronic publishing in China during the past few years, her Group was extremely busy evaluating content, trying out interfaces and licensing the large number of resources introduced below. The Group will continue its work under Chi-wah Chan and welcomes suggestions or recommendations from everyone using Chinese materials at Yale.-- E.H.H.

In addition to acquiring print materials, the East Asia Library has gradually been adding important Chinese digital resources to its collection to improve access to research materials. In order to systematically select, evaluate, and acquire Chinese digital resources, the Chinese Digital Resources Group (CDRG) was formed in July 2005 with Chi-wah Chan (Chair from Aug. 2007), Sarah S. Elman (Chair until Aug. 2007), and Tao Yang as group members. The Group identified the following types of Chinese digital resources as important for Yale to acquire:

- Full-text reference titles (including major bibliographies, dictionaries, indices, etc.)
- Primary source materials
- Scholarly works in humanities and social sciences (including monographs and periodicals)
- Materials not currently digitized, e.g., Republican-era publications, older periodicals, etc.

During the past two years, the group evaluated many database products, and has successfully acquired the following. Most of them are full-text databases.

- **China Data Online** (University of Michigan) – Resources on business, economy, law, and statistics, etc.
- **Wanfang China Online Journals** (数字化期刊全文数据库), from Wanfang Data.
- **Wanfang Dissertations of China** (中国学位论文全文数据库), from Wangfang Data.
- **Wanfang Policies and Laws of China** (政策法规数据库), from Wanfang Data.

- **Chinese Academic Journals (CAJ) Century Journals Project** (世刊人文社科精品数据), from CNKI via East View – Complete run of full-text articles for selected periodicals.
- **Tibetan Buddhist Resource Center Digital Library** – Primary and secondary resources in Tibetan.
- **China Core Newspapers Full-text Database** (中国重要全文数据库), from CNKI via East View.
- **Gu jin tu shu ji cheng** 古今圖書集成 = **The Complete Classics Collection of Ancient China**, from Greatman Group via East View.
- **Periopath: Taiwan Periodicals Index** (中華民國期刊論文索引), from National Central Library, Taiwan – Index to periodicals published in Taiwan, Hong Kong and Macao, some with full-text articles. Document delivery service for articles not available online is provided via EAL.
- **National Index to Chinese Newspapers & Periodicals** (全國刊索引), from Shanghai Library, China – Index only. However, document delivery service is provided via EAL.

Together with the databases available previously, such as *CHANT-Chinese Ancient Texts*, *China INFOBANK*, *Chinese Academic Journals* (中国期刊全文数据库), *People's Daily* (人民日報), and *Siku quanshu* (四庫全書), these provide easy and rapid access to an enormous number of books, dissertations, theses, newspapers, and journal articles, as well as statistical data. These databases can be accessed through the East Asia Library's home page at <http://www.library.yale.edu/eastasian/>, under the Chinese Studies Database List.

Several other databases are currently under consideration. Announcements will be made as soon as they are available. Library users are encouraged to provide feedback and recommendations regarding digital resources to the Group. Instructions on using selected databases will be provided from time to time. However, users may request one-on-one assistance anytime by contacting the East Asia Library staff.

Komonjo/Kuzushiji Summer Workshop at Yale

By Ellen Hammond

An international workshop devoted to the study of pre-modern Japanese scripts was held in the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library and the East Asia Library from July 16 to August 10. Using rare books from two Beinecke collections (the Japanese Manuscript Collection and the Yale Association of Japan Collection), participants learned how to decipher *hentaigana* and *kuzushiji* forms of written Japanese and also brushed up on their *sōrōbun* (honorific writing style) and *kanbun* (Chinese).

The theme of many of the class readings was Japanese encounters with the west during the late Tokugawa and early Meiji periods. Therefore, many of the texts chosen were from the mid to late 19th century. In addition, some of the unique manuscripts in the Beinecke – for example, a "true record" of a vendetta carried out by two young samurai to avenge the death of their mother – were also part of the curriculum.

The class was able to view the original books and scrolls during their intensive morning sessions in the Beinecke and devoted the afternoons to group and individual sessions in the East Asia Library in Sterling. The class also had many field trips, including a visit to Yale University Library Manuscripts & Archives department to view original documents from the hand of Yoshida Shōin, such as the petition he wrote under an alias to Commodore Matthew Perry in an effort to stow away on the "Black Ships" and visit the United States. Participants also saw the Lanman Collection of Edo period maps in the Map Collection, which included a lively woodblock print of Japanese ogling foreigners in the Yokohama pleasure quarter (as the foreigners ogled the courtesans). Other trips were to the Yale University Art Gallery for a gallery talk with Curator Sadako Ohki, and the New York Public Library, where the

group was treated to a special showing of the illustrated Japanese rare books and scrolls in the Spencer Collection.

The twenty participants (below, left) included faculty members, graduate students, art museum curators, and librarians from the U.S., U.K., Spain, and Denmark. The instructor, Professor Fumiko Umezawa, teaches at Keisen University in Tokyo. This is her fourth workshop in North America (previous events were held at Stanford and the University of British Columbia). Since it is difficult for many scholars to get the training they need to read pre-modern forms of Japanese, the Workshop represented a unique opportunity to not only receive special training but also view some of the wonderful holdings at Yale, which has the most extensive collection of early documents outside of Japan.

2007 Tenri Antiquarian Materials Workshop

Report by Keiko Suzuki

The first Tenri Antiquarian Materials Workshop for Overseas Japanese Studies Librarians took place from June 18th through June 22nd, 2007. It was organized and executed by the Tenri Workshop Committee, co-organized by Tenri University with assistance from the Japan Foundation, and supervised by Tenri Central Library. Tenrikyo provided us with wonderful accommodations in a peaceful environment in Nara, Japan.

The workshop is part of a three-year training program. It aims to train overseas Japanese studies librarians in the best practices for managing, cataloguing and organizing antiquarian manuscript and printed materials. In the future, participants will serve as core resource persons responsible for providing guidance and training on such materials to colleagues in their respective countries/regions. There are 12 European participants (four from the UK, three from France, one each from Belgium, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, and Norway, and seven librarians from North America including two from Yale: Haruko Nakamura, Librarian for Japanese Collections and myself. Although it is an honor to have taken part in this exceptional opportunity, we both recognize that an important responsibility has been placed on our shoulders.

This year's workshop focused on early modern printed books. From 9 o'clock in the morning till 5 in the evening, we were immersed in well-integrated lectures by expert instructors and hands-on training with a devoted group of library staff using the wealth of antiquarian materials in the Tenri Library.

Continued on page 6.



CHINESE ACQUISITIONS HIGHLIGHTS

By Chi-wah Chan

In the academic year 2006–2007, 4,884 titles in 10,068 volumes were added to the Chinese collection. Through participating in the “Window to China” program, the Library received a gift of 136 titles on Chinese art, literature, and history from the National Library of China. The Library also benefited from the gifts donated by Yale faculty and visiting scholars.

In the last academic year, the library made significant acquisitions in different fields of study. For Dunhuang studies, we acquired two sets of primary sources, *Guo jia tu shu guan cang Dunhuang yi shu* (國家圖書館藏敦煌遺書) (56 vols.) and *Faguo guo jia tu shu guan cang Dunhuang zang wen wen xian* (法國國家圖書館藏敦煌藏文文獻) (2 vols.). For Chinese literary studies, the library bought the newly published *Quan Song wen* (全宋文) (360 vols.) and the *Su wen xue cong kan* (俗文學叢刊) (500 vols.). The acquisition of *Zhongguo lu xue wen xian* (中國律學文獻) (19 vols.), *Lidai pan li pan du* (歷代判例判牘) (12 vols.), *Zhongguo zhen xi fa lu dian ji xu bian* (中國珍稀法律典籍續編) (10 vols.), and *Gu dai xiang yue ji xiang zhi fa lu wen xian shi zhong* (古代鄉約及鄉治法律文獻十種) (3 vols.) will benefit researchers in the legal history of China.

The purchase of *Zhongguo yi xue da cheng xu ji* (中國醫學大成續集) (44 vols.) fills a gap in our collection in the Chinese sciences, specifically Chinese medical science. Furthermore, the library acquired parts of the set of *Zhonghua zai zao shan ben* (中華再造善本), which are facsimiles of the rare editions of Chinese classics dating back to the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Although they are facsimiles, they are good sources for textual criticism of Chinese classics and provide a glimpse of early woodblock printing in China.

Collaborating with the Divinity School Library, we have been intensifying our efforts to collect scholarly works on Christianity in contemporary China. For example, we recently bought a scholarly study on Christianity in Yunan entitled *Yunan Jidu jiao chuan bo ji xian zhuang diao chao bao gao* (雲南基督教傳播及現狀調查報告). To anticipate the growing research interest among graduate students and faculty in Chinese film, we collected a number of publications on Chinese cinema and Hong Kong cinema last year. With the help of colleagues in China,

we also started to receive some materials, though small in quantity, on gay and lesbian issues.

All in all, we had a good year in terms of strengthening and widening the scope of our collection so as to accommodate the diverse research interests our faculty and students in the East Asian Studies at Yale.

NEW VISITING LIBRARIANS

By Sarah Elman



(WANG Liang, left, and Junglim CHAE)

The East Asia Library is hosting two Visiting Librarians this year. Mr. WANG Liang started his term at Yale on August 2, 2007. Mr. Wang obtained his Ph.D. degree in Chinese Classics from the Center for Ancient Chinese Literature, Fudan University, and is a rare book cataloger at the Fudan University Library (Shanghai, China). He is being funded for six months through the Kwok Foundation grant. His project will involve cataloging of Chinese imprints dated 1796 through 1912. He will be doing research on Chinese rare book collections in North America as well.

Ms. Junglim CHAE is taking Master courses in journalism & mass communication at Yonsei University (Seoul, Korea), where she is also the Library External Relations Officer and Chief Acquisitions Librarian at the Central Library. She started her term on August 15 and will be at Yale for one year. She is being funded through a Title VI grant and her home institution. Her project will be collection development for Korean materials and user support. She will also conduct research on the role of subject specialists in academic libraries.

Japanese Acquisitions Highlights

By Haruko Nakamura

The Japanese Collection made a number of important acquisitions during the past year including new databases, primary source collections and journal reprints. We were also fortunate to receive some donations from prominent scholars of Japanese studies. These gift materials range in subject from urban cultural development in Japan to the famous Japanese *anime*, *Neon genesis Evangelion*. We also received a 20-year run of the Japanese film magazine *Kinema Junpō* and ephemera related to Japanese film, such as cinema handbills and pamphlets.

The library added important new databases, such as 日国オンライン *Nikkoku Online*, *Nichigai WebWho* and *Digital Dictionary of Buddhism*. However, due to restrictive license agreements and the conservative views of Japanese publishers, the availability of electronic resources from Japan is still quite limited in the U.S. For instance, the database *CiNii* is a free resource that can be used to obtain citations to articles in academic journals, as well as research bulletins published by academic institutions. *CiNii* is a powerful tool because it enables a user to search journals published by academic societies as well as research bulletins published by academic institutions. It provides many of these articles in full text, some from journals that are difficult for researchers to obtain outside of Japan. Researchers at Yale are currently prohibited from accessing the texts of these articles directly through the database. However, it is very important for library users to know that Yale Library's Inter-Library Loan service can access the *CiNii* database and obtain journal articles within days.

Some examples of notable recent acquisitions include:

演芸画報 *Engei Gahō*

Engei Gahō was an important theatrical journal that was published from 1907 (Meiji 40) to 1944. The journal reprinted many theatrical programs from theaters in Japan, mainly kabuki, but also *shinpa*, *shingeki*, *hōgaku*, *ningyo jōruri*, *rakugo*, *kōdan*, and *katsudō shashin*, etc. It includes stage photos, reviews, and historical research, etc.

海外日本実業者の調査 *Kaigai Nihon Jitsugyosha no Chōsa*
 Reprint of 22 reports on activities of Japanese businessmen in foreign countries from 1903 (Meiji 36) to 1941 (Shōwa 16). Conducted by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, these surveys targeted Japanese who were engaged in the retail trade, manufacturing, agriculture, forestry, and fisheries in foreign lands (excluding Japanese colonies at that time). The reports provide business owners' names, domiciles, and birth dates, as well as information on their businesses, including income, output, gross sales, branches, locations, employees, etc.

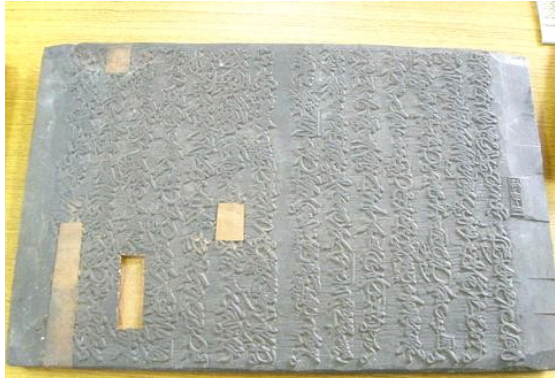
日帝下戦時體制期政策史料叢書 *Ilche ha chōnsi ch'ejegi chōngch'aek saryo ch'ongsō*

Reprint of historical sources on Japanese government administration of Japan's colonies, including administrative records created by the government, policy papers on educational initiatives designed to inculcate Japanese values in colonial populations, government policy documents on speeches and publications, and strategies for recruiting soldiers, etc. (A CD version is also available.)

日国オンライン *Nikkoku Online*

Nikkoku Online is the online version of *Nihon Kokugo Daijiten* by Shōgakusan, one of the most important Japanese language dictionaries. It contains about 500,000 entries with 1,000,000 sample sentences listed in *gojūon* order. Entries include pronunciations, common *kanji* used for the words, a range of definitions and examples of the word usage from over 30,000 historical works from the Nara to the Meiji periods. Supplements include an index of *kanji*, dialect words, and detailed bibliographic information on archaic usage. The dictionary also provides newly created words, colloquial words, archaic words, idioms, foreign loan words, slang, *dōkun iji* and *iji dōkun*.

Continued from page 3: Tenri Workshop Report



A woodblock with "correction inserts" in the Tenri Library.

The whole five days were a special treat for me as I could learn from or consult with other experienced Japanese librarians instead of working alone with books at a computer as is typical when cataloging.

We also had an opportunity to visit Tenrikyo Headquarters and the Tenri Sankokan Museum, and attended a Tenri University International Symposium entitled "Book Paths: to Japan, from Japan - International Intellectual Exchange through Books." The symposium sessions included a talk about Japanese rare and special collections in selected libraries in North America, which gave me a better grasp of the remarkable treasures we have here in the U.S. Haruko and I hope that next year will be even more fruitful and that we can make Yale's own precious Japanese antiquarian materials more accessible through our experience at the Workshop.



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