



TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2022 - WINTER 2023

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FROM THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY DIRECTOR

by Zhijia Shen

Dear Friends and Library Users,

I hope this message finds you in good health and spirits. As we reflect on the past few months, we have celebrated both the Gregorian New Year and the Lunar New Year of the Rabbit with our loved ones. At the Tateuchi East Asia Library (Tateuchi EAL), we have also been busy with major projects.



Tateuchi EAL
Director
Zhijia Shen

We are excited to report that the relocation of the collections in Kane auxiliary stacks to offsite storage facilities and the renovation of our reading-room in Gowen Hall are both making great progress, thanks to the collaboration of various departments. The relocation of Kane collections was completed on February 10th, moving 380,235 items to offsite storage. The reading-room renovation will be fully completed in April and we expect to re-open our newly renovated library in May 2023.

To prepare for the relocation, Tateuchi EAL staff conducted a thorough inventory of the collections of over 400,000 items at the auxiliary stacks, leaving no book unchecked, and also moved several thousands of special collection items from the auxiliary stacks back to our stacks in Gowen. We thank our colleagues in Libraries Facilities, Preservations, Central Access Services, and Advancement for their hard work, great collaboration and leadership, which have ensured the successful completion of both projects. Due to lack of shelving space at the off-site storage facility, however, more than 22,000 volumes of Tateuchi EAL collections will remain in Kane basement after the move, including our Tibetan collection, Chinese, Japanese and Korean large-sized books and regular-sized monographs. The auxiliary stacks will continue to exist but on a much smaller scale.

In addition to these exciting progresses, Tateuchi EAL’s hard-working team continues to go above and beyond, and our library

continues to accomplish in all areas of library services, as you will read in this issue of the newsletter.

In June 2022, Tateuchi EAL completed its three-year project to catalog the historically accumulated cataloging backlogs of Chinese language material through outsourcing. The project has cleared up the final group of Tateuchi EAL's cataloging backlogs, and finally and permanently eliminated the decades-old cataloging backlogs of Chinese, Japanese and Korean language materials at the Tateuchi EAL. I congratulate Jian Lee for so ably leading this complex and challenging endeavor to a wonderful outcome. The project processed over 8,000 volumes of Chinese books, including traditional string-bound books and handwritten manuscripts among other unconventional book formats. Today, we can proudly and loudly declare that the UW Tateuchi East Asia Library is free of cataloging backlogs.

In the past two quarters, we have continued to strengthen our special collections through bibliographic work, preservation, and international exchanges. One exciting achievement was the resumption of the exchange program between UW and Keio University libraries. We also invited librarians specializing in rare books from the National Library of Korea to evaluate our Korean special collection books. With a generous gift from long-time donor of our library, we will invite two rare-book librarians from China to work with us on the compilation of the "Annotated Bibliography of Chinese Ancient Books at UW Libraries." All these efforts will enable us to better organize, understand, preserve, and publicize our special collections and to enhance their accessibility to users worldwide.

In the summer of 2022, Tateuchi EAL received a generous gift of \$60,000 from a long-time supporter of the library to fund the above-mentioned project of annotated bibliography of Chinese ancient books and a scholarly conference titled "Brainwashing in Mao's Era and Beyond." We express our deep gratitude to the donor for the support and generosity, which have contributed to our library's success.

Tateuchi EAL presented an exhibition on Dunhuang, entitled "Dunhuang Caves on the Silk Road" in Allen

Library from December 12, 2022, to March 10, 2023. Meanwhile, an online exhibition is available, featuring more images, videos, and stories. Lucy Li's articles offer detailed information about the exhibition and the Dunhuang project.

While celebrating accomplishments, we are mindful of the challenges. In Fiscal Year 2024, the UW Financial Transformation will go live. To meet the adjusted ordering deadlines and cope with space shortage, we have updated our collection development strategies to increase acquisitions of electronic resources and to reduce the acquisition of print books. We are actively weeding our collections to ensure the healthy development and efficient use of shelving space. Tateuchi EAL has adjusted its gift policies to manage the growth of its print collections. These are new challenges that Tateuchi EAL and UW Libraries face, which call for the creativity and dedication of our staff.

Tateuchi EAL is also facing an acute staff shortage. In September 2022, both the Tateuchi EAL Circulation Supervisor and Technician Lead resigned from their positions. Ms. Yan Zhu has taken on a teaching position at the Department of East Asian Languages and Literature at UW. Congratulations to Yan for moving from library staff to teaching faculty and core user of the library. In September 2022, Dr. Ian Chapman, the Chinese Reference and Instruction Librarian, left UW to take the position of the Chinese Studies Librarian at the Library of Congress, and Ms. Chun Li, the Circulation Technician Lead and library intern, departed. It was Chun who led a team of student assistants in completing the extensive inventory of the collections in Kane. During this interim period, the remaining staff have taken on the full workload of these positions. I thank the entire Tateuchi EAL team for the collaboration and dedication during this challenging time.

I invite you to enjoy reading this issue of our newsletter. We look forward to the grand reopening of our newly renovated space in the spring quarter of 2023 and to welcoming users back in person to the Tateuchi East Asia Library.

FEATURED TOPICS

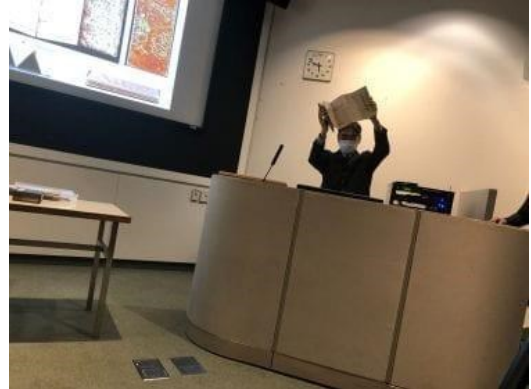
BRIDGING CULTURES: PROFESSOR TAKAHIRO SASAKI'S VISIT TO THE UW LIBRARIES

by Zhijia Shen

In October 2022, Tateuchi EAL welcomed Professor Takahiro Sasaki. Professor Sasaki is the immediate former Director of the Keio Institute of Oriental Classics (Shido Bunko) at Keio University in Tokyo, Japan. He has been teaching and doing research at Shido Bunko for more than 20 years. The multi-day visit included a lecture, class visits, collection assessment, and staff training, which was part of the exchange program between the University of Washington and Keio University funded by the generous grant from the Tateuchi Foundation.

During his visit, Professor Sasaki spent much time helping us evaluate our Japanese special collection at the University of Washington Libraries. He also observed our preservation process for premodern Japanese material and recommended best practices to our staff to improve the UW Japanese book preservation process, as well as future directions for collection development.

Professor Sasaki's scholarly expertise and research in the history of books and Japanese classics has benefited us significantly in development and curation of our collections of premodern Japanese books. In addition to



Professor Sasaki's presentation in Allen Auditorium on October 26, 2022

collection evaluation, Professor Sasaki also gave a public presentation to a packed house on "The History and Character of Premodern Japanese Books". Using examples from the special collection, the presentation vividly introduced the audience to the invaluable premodern Japanese books in our Tateuchi EAL and his own personal collection. Professor Paul S. Atkins served as the translator and facilitator. His excellent translation and facilitation significantly enhanced the event. Many library staff, faculty, and students from East Asian studies programs on campus, as well as many community friends, attended the presentation. It was a cultural feast for our faculty, students and library staff, and we all learned a lot.



From left to right: Zhijia Shen (Director of Tateuchi EAL), Simon Neame (Dean of UW Libraries), Professor Sasaki, Paul Constantine (Associate Dean of University Libraries Distinctive Collections) and Keiko Hill (Japanese Cataloger/Serials and E-Resources Librarian). Taken on Oct. 26, 2022.



Professor Sasaki working with Professor Atkins and his Ph.D. students.

“We had a lovely time with Professor Sasaki in my class,” said Atkins. “Our reading assignment was the final chapters of *The Tale of Genji*, and he just happened to have a 17th manuscript copy of the final chapter, which he explained to students, with an emphasis on how the shape of the cover reflects the status of the text. He let students take a close look at the books, including their gold covers. He took some questions and the students were thrilled!”

Professor Sasaki met with staff of the Tateuchi EAL and the UW Libraries Preservations Department to discuss prospects for future exchange between our institutions. He also met with faculty and students from the Departments of Asian Languages and Literature, History, School of Art/Art History/Design, and spent many hours with them to discuss Japanese classics and special collections.

In a meeting with Dean Simon Neame of the UW Libraries, Professor Sasaki presented a gift of two precious Japanese rare books and four important Japanese scholarly publications on the history of Japanese books. They are excellent additions to our collection and will benefit our library users for generations to come.

At the end of his visit, Tateuchi EAL co-hosted a cultural tour of Seattle with one of its donors, who is also a Seattle-area alumna of Keio University. The tour included an exciting outing to many iconic places, including stops at the Pike Place Market, the Space Needle, the Chihuly Glass and Art museum, the Museum of Flight, and a Seattle waterfront cruise. The special day ended with a visit to the Keio alumna’s beautiful home.



Professor Sasaki meeting with staff at the UW Libraries Preservation Department

Professor Sasaki prepared a thorough report of his visit with many great insights that will help us better understand the Japanese works held at the Tateuchi EAL and UW Libraries’ Special Collections. It will also provide guidance in our efforts to further develop and strengthen these treasures at the UW Libraries.

Professor Sasaki’s visit was the first post-pandemic visit through the UW Libraries and Keio University Library Exchange Program. It was a wonderful experience, and we cherish the friendship and collaboration developed through these informative exchanges between our libraries. It is through such efforts, we as libraries build bridges between cultures across the Pacific. We look forward to continuing strengthening the special and long tradition between UW and Keio libraries and between our universities, for which Mr. and Mrs. Tateuchi have helped lay the foundation.

Our special thanks to the Tateuchi Foundation for its generous support and a grant that made this visit possible. We thank Professor Paul Atkins at the UW Department of Asian Languages and Literature for his strong support and collaboration.

As one of the top East Asia Libraries in North America, Tateuchi EAL’s collections include all subject areas in the humanities and social sciences. With the rapid growth of digital technology and digital resources, library special collections play a unique role in supporting teaching, learning and research. As scholarly research becomes increasingly interdisciplinary, libraries become an ever more collaborative space for students and scholars to meet and discuss their learning and research. Professor Sasaki’s visit helped enhance such collaborations and further strengthen our library collection development and preservation.

More About Professor Sasaki

Professor Sasaki is the immediate former Director of the Keio Institute of Oriental Classics (Shido Bunko). He graduated from the Faculty of Letters of Keio University, and later received his master’s and Ph.D. degrees there. After serving in the Research Information Division at the National Institute of Japanese Literature (NIJL), he returned to Keio. He is now a full professor and has been teaching and doing research at Shido Bunko for more than 20 years.



He is a member of the Association of Waka Poetry Stud-

ies and the Academy of Middle Ages Literature. In 1995, he was awarded the 21st annual Japan Classic Literature Foundation Prize and was selected for the Keio Prize from Keio University in 2016. He was chosen for the 39th Kadokawa Gen'yoshi Prize in Literature in 2017. A renowned scholar of the history of Japanese books, he was the lead educator for the Future Learn MOOC courses on

"Japanese Culture Through Rare Books" and "The Art of Washi Paper in Japanese Rare Books."

Through his outstanding scholarship, Professor Sasaki brings an indispensable point of view to the Japanese classics, one firmly based in the field of bibliography, sitting at the crossroads of physical material and cultural context.

THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF KOREA (NLK) VISITED TATEUCHI EAL

by Hyokyoung Yi

Two curators from the National Library of Korea, Mr. Kibong Lee, Deputy Director of the Old and Rare Collection Division, and Ms. Jihee Han, curator in the same division visited the Tateuchi EAL from November 7 to November 10, 2022 to examine the UW Libraries' Korean rare books as a part of their global research [project on overseas Korean collection](#).

This visit was first discussed in 2018, when Hyokyoung Yi visited the NLK, but the plan had to be postponed due to the pandemic as well as Tateuchi EAL's ongoing renovation project. Thanks to both institutions' renewed efforts in 2022 to push forward the project without any further delay, the NLK finally dispatched two curators to the UW Libraries.

They took pictures of the pages from the collection that are necessary for identifying each piece of materials. The visitors reviewed about 250 Korean titles from the Tateuchi EAL Special Collection and another 200 titles from the regular stacks. The publication dates that they were interested in ranged mostly between the pre-20th century to 1945.

After their thorough examination and research based on photo images, we are expecting to have the report from them. Then, the UW Libraries and the National Library of Korea will start discussing further steps of collaborative projects such as publication and digitization of some selected titles among the collection.



Mr. Kibong Lee and Ms. Jihee Han examining items from Tateuchi EAL Special Collection

THE TATEUCHI EAL DUNHUANG EXHIBITION AND PROJECT

by Lucy Li

On December 12, 2022, the *Dunhuang Caves on the Silk Road* exhibition opened at the UW Allen Library North Ground Floor. The exhibition is a part of the Tateuchi EAL's Dunhuang Project in collaboration with the

Dunhuang Foundation in the U.S. and the Dunhuang Academy in China. Initiated at the beginning of 2021, the goal of the project was to introduce to a broad audience about Dunhuang, a UNESCO World Heritage



The exhibit showcases Tateuchi EAL's collection on the subject of Dunhuang.

site rich in history, art, and research values, located in the northwestern province of Gansu, China.

The exhibit consists of 28 posters of images of the Dunhuang caves, murals, sculptures, and manuscripts, accompanied by text descriptions introducing these Dunhuang materials. The exhibit also displayed selected collections on the Dunhuang subject from the Tateuchi EAL, including catalogs of Dunhuang manuscripts from different institutions around the world, research published by the Dunhuang Academy, and many more.

Along with the Allen exhibition, the Dunhuang Project also created a fuller [virtual exhibit](#) version on Dunhuang

consisting of: *Stories behind Dunhuang Caves, The Library Cave and Dunhuang Manuscripts*, and *Conservation and the Future of Dunhuang*. The virtual exhibit tells the stories behind the creation of the Dunhuang caves, the arts contained within, and the scattering of the Dunhuang manuscripts originally discovered in the Library Cave. It tries to capture some highlights along the over 1,000 years of prosperity and decline from these caves as a primer to getting to know Dunhuang.

Aside from the exhibits, the [Dunhuang Project Website](#) provides a platform for information and materials about Dunhuang. It will continue to be uploaded with videos, images, and extended readings in both Chinese and English on Dunhuang materials that are authorized by the Dunhuang Academy and supported by the Dunhuang Foundation.

Beginning in 2023, the UW Dunhuang Project will host a series of speakers talking about Dunhuang and Dunhuang research over Zoom. The speakers will come from both sides of the Pacific. Please subscribe to our mailing list at the [Dunhuang Project Website](#) for these upcoming events.

COLLECTIONS AND SERVICES

SIGNIFICANT ACQUISITIONS

CHINA STUDIES: ZHONGGUO WEN SHI ZI LIAO JI CUI 中国文史资料集粹

by Zhijia Shen

Tateuchi EAL has acquired the [Zhongguo wen shi zi liao ji cui 文史资料数据库](#) database in February 2023. This database includes over 20,000 volumes of historical source materials of modern China. Under the auspices of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, this huge series was compiled by the Wenshi Ziliao offices at provincial, city, and county levels. The contents include historical materials, articles and interviews of historical events, individuals and organizations, touching upon various aspects of the political and social life in modern China. The compilation work was initiated in 1959, suspended during the Cultural Revolution (1966-1976), and resumed in 1978, creating a wealth of historical source materials and important primary

sources. These materials provide another angle into the history of Modern China. The database offers searches by author, title, publication date, key words, as well as a user-friendly interface.



Zhongguo wen shi zi liao ji cui database interface

KOREAN STUDIES: NEW E-RESOURCES

by Hyokyung Yi

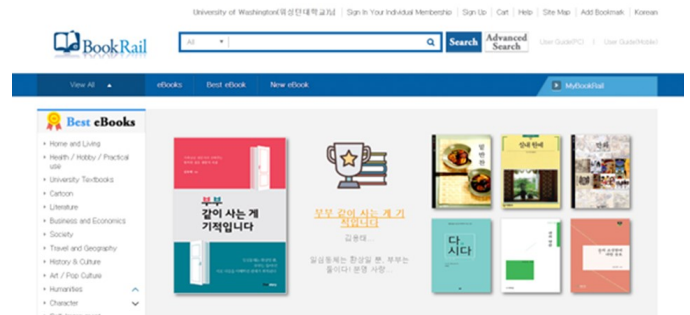
1. BookRail: IP Based eBook Database

Tateuchi EAL has added many new e-book titles to [BookRail \(북레일\)](#), another major Korean eBook platform like Kyobo eBooks. The IP-authentication-based BookRail is user-friendly. You can access full texts without setting a separate login registration and installing a specific viewer, which were the case for Kyobo eBooks. BookRail covers a broader range of subject areas with scholarly titles that are more suitable for academic libraries. So far we have added over 250 titles with focus on poetry and women's studies. These are subject areas for which we have an obligation to acquire as a member library of the Korean Collections Consortium of North America. We plan to add titles also from other core subject areas

2. Kulloja: Digital Backfiles of the Magazine by the Worker's Party of DPRK

More and more North Korean periodicals became available in the digital format as print copies are getting harder to get. While this would be great additions for researchers, the price for these reproductions is not always easy to afford. Thanks to the Allen Opportunity Award, Tateuchi EAL was able to join the group purchase of the 2nd release of digital backfiles of [Kulloja \(근로자\)](#), containing from the first issue beginning in October 1946 through December

such as history, literature, culture, etc. Individual titles we purchased are searchable and accessible directly from the UW Libraries Catalog. Or you can also browse our collection at the customized page for UW via [this link](#). Please bookmark it and feel free to explore. If there is any title we haven't bought, your suggestions are always welcome!



BookRail interface

1991 and from 2017 to 2019. The acquisition will complete the title up to 2,006 publications, filling the gap in our holdings on publications from the earlier years. The backfiles are in PDF formats (20 GB total) that replaced 569 print volumes in total. The magazine is very resourceful to understand policies and guidelines of the Workers' Party of DPRK and the editorials and commentaries explained theories behind those.



Digital Backfiles (left) and cover image from the first issue of Kulloja from October 1946 (right).

FINAL UPDATE ON THE PROJECT “DISCOVER REPUBLICAN CHINA - CATALOGING HIDDEN TREASURES OF 20TH CENTURY CHINESE PUBLICATIONS

by Jian Lee

In October 2022, Tateuchi EAL successfully completed cataloging outsourcing of the historical Chinese backlogs as part of our “Discover Republican China – Cataloging Hidden Treasures of 20th Century Chinese Publications” project. The project was generously funded by the UW Libraries’ Allen Signature Award. We identified and



Cataloged books awaiting for preservations.

contracted China National Publications Import & Export Corporation (CNPIEC) as our cataloging outsourcing vendor to work on this project from July 2020 to June 2022. With the efforts of our student workers and our Chinese cataloging and metadata librarian, we prepared and sent 3,500 titles to CNPIEC for cataloging and carefully processed these titles and uploaded them into our online catalog. After reaching the contracted term period in June 2022, we extended the contract for another 4 months to allow an additional 500 titles to be cataloged to meet the originally estimated 4,000 titles in the contract. On top of the total 4,000 titles outsourced, we also finished cataloging over 1,800 titles of the historical Chinese backlog collection in-house over the course of the past three years.

As mentioned in the 2020 Winter-Spring issue, part of this backlog collection needs preservation attention. During the project, we identified over 2,000 volumes that needed preservation. Our next step is to work with the UW Libraries Preservation Services to preserve the collection and make them accessible to our users.

OUTSOURCING OF KOREAN CATALOGING

by Kyungsuk Yi

Outsourcing cataloging for Korean materials began in September 2022. Tateuchi EAL previously had an outsourcing project for Korean pre-cat materials to eliminate decades-old backlogs. This time, however, the cataloging outsourcing project targets mainly the new materials of current acquisitions including eBooks. This project serves as an alternative to the currently vacant Korean Cataloger’s position.

This project is supported by Cataloging and Metadata Services (CAMS) at the UW Libraries. Ms. Erin Grant, the Director of CAMS arranged the project and provided the cataloging guidelines to the vendor. Kyungsuk Yi, Serials/Binding/Cataloging Specialist at Tateuchi EAL processes the pre- and post-cataloging work, such as selecting the outsourcing materials for original cataloging, packing/unpacking shipments to the vendor, reviewing returned records, importing OCLC save files to Alma, and so on.

Staff members sometimes encounter unexpected issues with the implementation of cataloging outsourcing that were normally not of concern when doing in-house.

Team members at Tateuchi EAL, Hyokyoung, Chuyong, and Kyungsuk have cooperated and will continue to cooperate with each other to solve the issues and achieve the annual cataloging goals

Thanks to the joint efforts of the staff members and the outsourcing vendor, the project is running smoothly. As of December 2022, more than 600 titles have been cataloged including some backlogs.



Returned Korean outsourced materials from cataloging vendor.

UPDATE ON THE GAIHŌZU MAPS INVENTORY

by Azusa Tanaka

As shared in the past issues of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletters, the UW Libraries own a significant size of the Gaihōzu 外邦図 (“maps of outer lands”). Gaihōzu are topographic maps of areas outside of Japan produced by the former Japanese Imperial Army from the 1880s to the end of World War II. They were based on either original surveys or pre-existing maps. The former Imperial Army also created detailed maps of “inland” Japan (Naikokuzu 内国図).

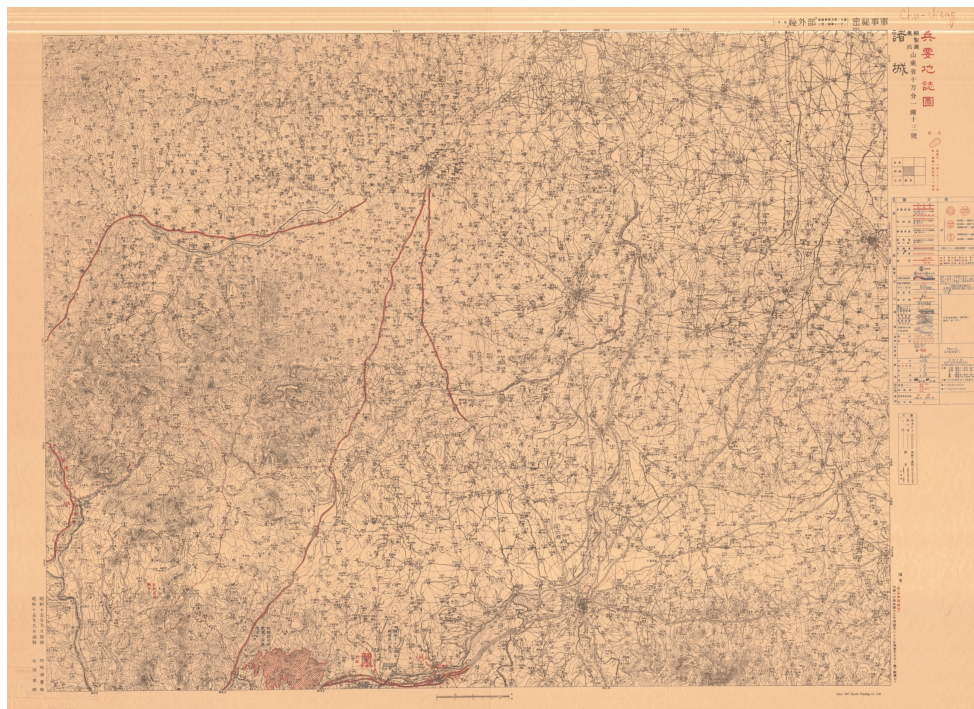
Regardless of the coverage of the areas, these military maps were captured by the U.S. Allies at the end of WWII, transferred to the U.S., and eventually distributed to the libraries throughout the country, including the UW Libraries.

The UW Libraries own 4,445 of the “inland” and 2,525 of the “outer land” maps. Considering that users’ needs are more emphasized on the “outer land”, Tateuchi EAL have been prioritizing inventory of the “outer land” maps ever since they were discovered in

the basement of the Suzzallo and Allen Library in 2014. We are now excited to report that all these 2,525 “outer lands” maps have been added to the inventory. The detailed descriptions of each map is recorded in this publicly accessible [Google Spreadsheet](#). It is licensed as CC BY-NC 4.0 so the users can incorporate the dataset into their own research. As for the ‘inland’ maps, 3,727 sheets have been added to the inventory. They will be published once all the records are added.

This massive work was possible thanks to the amazing supporters including student assistants, visiting librarians, and a volunteer. Long term help was provided by the visiting librarian from Keio University, Ryo Kato, supported by the Tateuchi Foundation; the graduate student Monica Twork, supported by the Japan Studies department; and the current student specialist Benjamin Ty Narkmon.

To learn more about the Gaihōzu project at UW and beyond please visit the [Gaihozu website](#).

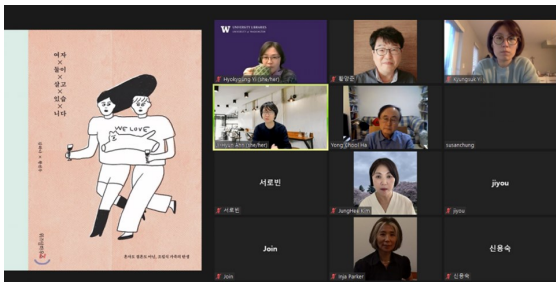


Santōshō Shojō (山東省諸城), Shōwa 15 (1940)

89TH BOOKSORI WITH PROFESSOR JI-HYUN AHN

by Hyokyoung Yi

Professor Ji-Hyun Ahn, Associate Professor of Communication in the School of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences at UW Tacoma, was invited to give a talk at the 89th Booksori, the Korean book talk program at



Professor Ji-Hyun Ahn (first left, second row) presenting at the 89th Booksori.

Tateuchi EAL. The event was held over Zoom on December 1, 2022.

Professor Ahn introduced a popular Korean book called 여자 둘이 살고 있습니다 (Two Women Living Together), which became sensational among women in South Korea. She discussed different types of families and living arrangements among women, offering an open discussion to the audience of her talk.

Community members and a UW faculty participated in the discussion on the many interesting changes in Korean culture and society. At UW Tacoma, Professor Ahn teaches on media globalization and inter-Asian media/cultural studies. She is the author of *Mixed-Race Politics and Neoliberal Multiculturalism in South Korean Media*.

HISTORY THROUGH MEMORIES AND STORIES - RESUMING THE UW TATEUCHI EAL ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

by Summer Dai



The oral history project, *History through Memories and Stories: Exploring Seattle's Chinese Immigrant Experiences*, was initiated by the director of the Tateuchi EAL, Zhijia Shen, in 2014. The project aims to create an archive to document the lives and experiences of first generation Chinese immigrants in the greater Seattle area, groups from diverse cultural backgrounds, geographical areas, and historical periods. The narrators' life experience, their perceptions of identities and major events of their times provide a special window into the history of the Chinese immigrants in the U.S. The project has completed interviewing fifty-four (54) individuals and published most of them on the UW Digital Repository attached with transcripts in Chinese or English and photographs. .

The project was suspended for nearly three years, first due to the pandemic and then the renovation of the Tateuchi EAL. We are planning to resume the project and restart interviewing when our library reopens in spring 2023. Under the direct supervision of Zhijia, a new team including interviewers and technical members is being organized. We are currently working on updating the [project website](#).

As a student assistant at Tateuchi EAL, I have been given the responsibility to help resume the oral history project. I realized the significance of this oral history project after reviewing the fascinating life stories. Most of the narrators were born in China or Taiwan around the 1930s. They lived through wars, political and economic turmoil in Asia during the 1940s and 50s. When most of them came to the U.S. in the 1960s or 70s, there were not as many Chinese and Taiwanese as there are today, thus they had little community support. They had to support themselves and their families while excelling at school, and to adapt to the "American ways" to integrate into the society. This was especially difficult during the economic recessions of the 1970s. Despite all these hardships, they managed to get through and made contributions to the many professions that they got into, such as engineering, medicine, higher education, business, and so on. When they settled in Seattle, many of them actively engaged in building local Chinese and Taiwanese communities and supporting Chinese and Taiwanese immigrants.

I look forward to restarting the interviews and to hearing and recording the interesting stories about the diverse lives of the Chinese and Taiwanese immigrants in the Greater Seattle area. Individuals' lives are shaped by geopolitical, political, economic, and social changes of their times, and are valuable resources for further research.

PEOPLE OF TATEUCHI EAL

IN MEMORIAM: YEEN-MEI WU, 1935-2022

Adapted from the article originally published by the [UW Taiwan Studies Program](#) on January 5, 2023.



Yeen-mei Wu, ardent supporter of the Tateuchi East Asia Library and the Taiwan Studies Program, died November 29th, 2022. She was 87.

Yeen-Mei came to the US in 1959 to

study business at the University of Michigan. She was part of the wave of Chinese immigrants to the country, many of whom were from Taiwan. On her way to Ann Arbor, she stopped by San Francisco, and ended up staying. With the help of friends, Yeen-Mei enrolled in the School of Information at San Jose State College and worked at Stanford University Library in the summer. The next year, she enrolled in the School of Librarianship at UC Berkeley.

While studying for her Master of Library Science degree, Yeen-Mei worked part-time jobs in three libraries at UCB. One of these, the Center for Chinese Studies Library (CCS), offered her a librarian's position before she even graduated. It was thus at CCS that Yeen-Mei began her career as a professional librarian in 1962. In 1967, Yeen-Mei moved with her husband and two young children to Seattle, where he worked for Boeing and Yeen-Mei was hired in 1969 as the Chinese Studies Librarian at UW's Far Eastern Library, which is today's Tateuchi East Asia Library.

During her tenure at the then UW's East Asia Library (EALUW) from October 1969 to August 2001, Yeen-Mei made many important contributions. In the 1980s, most East Asian libraries in the United States moved their catalogs online. EALUW played a leading role in such moves towards library automation. For example, it collaborated with Academia Sinica's Computation Center in developing the Twenty-Five Dynastic Histories database, providing full-text searchable versions of key traditional Chinese histories. After the departure of EALUW director Karl Lo, Yeen-Mei took over and completed this important project, which had a significant impact on libraries and users worldwide.

As Chinese Studies Librarian, Yeen-Mei was responsible for collection development, user consultation, and reference. Following the normalization of diplomatic relations between the U.S. and the People's Republic of China in 1979, EALUW expanded its book acquisition network from Taiwan and Hong Kong to include mainland China. In 1989 Yeen-Mei visited Beijing for the first time, to present a paper at an international conference - held at Beijing Library, which later became the National Library of China - on Chinese library collections.

Yeen-Mei was actively involved in the local Taiwanese communities. In 1970, she was part of a group that founded the Taiwanese Association of Greater Seattle. In 1985 and 1986, she was elected chair of the Association. Her election as Chair of the Taiwanese Association led to her blacklisting by the Kuomintang (KMT) government in Taiwan, but that did not stop her. She joined the Greater Seattle Taiwanese Women's Club when it was first formed in 1987 and served as its Chair from 2006 to 2008. She wrote a history of the club, compiled a video of its past activities, and was an active writer for its publication *Funü Yuandi* 婦女園地 (Women's Corner).

Yeen-Mei was an excellent archivist who carefully documented significant events. Items from her collections relating to Taiwanese organizations in Seattle were included in the digital project Historical Sources on the Taiwan Democratic Movement Overseas at Taiwan's National Chengchi University (2013-14).

Yeen-Mei has dedicated an endowment fund to the collection of primary sources and scholarship relating to local Taiwanese history, focusing on Taiwan studies at the grassroots level. She encouraged collection of archival and other primary sources from the county level and below. She also promoted the collection of resources relating to Taiwanese communities in America, particularly in the greater Seattle area. Bill Lavelly, Chair of UW's Taiwan Studies Program, noted, "Building the Tateuchi EAL collection of Taiwan local materials is a great project that will complement our program and help build it into a research organization."

ZHIJIA SHEN PARTICIPATED IN A FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSION ON LIBRARIES AND ARCHIVES FOR CHINA STUDIES

Zhijia Shen was invited to participate in a focus group discussion on Libraries and Archives for China studies, as part of a series of focus groups organized by the Henry Luce Foundation/American Council on Learned Societies Program in China Studies. The group met on October 28, 2022 to discuss issues and share expertise in the area. The goals of the focus groups were to help ACLS better understand the field and to determine how ACLS can best use its funding from the Luce Foundation to shape the future of China Studies in the U.S. and Canada.

Questions discussed at the Libraries and Archives group included how digital resources and archives were affected by questions of securitization; how ACLS

can encourage the use of digital collections and archives for academic research; what types of skills scholars need to preserve and utilize digital collections; best ways to share information about new and existing digital resources and collections; and how ACLS can help facilitate collaborations between scholars and librarians. The discussions were thought-provoking and illuminating.

Two China scholars, professors from the University of Montreal and University of California Irvine; and two librarians from the UW and University of Pennsylvania were invited participants of this focus group, which was facilitated by a professor from the University of Pennsylvania.

ZHIJIA SHEN LED LIBRARY PANEL AT THE 5TH NW CHINA FORUM

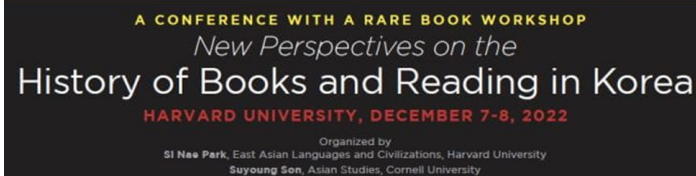
Collaborating with Chinese Studies librarians from the University of British Columbia (UBC) and University of Illinois, Zhijia Shen organized a library panel at the 5th NW China Forum, hosted by the Jackson School of International Studies China Studies Program on the UW Seattle campus from October 21-23, 2022. This is a regional scholarly conference co-organized by the UW, the UBC, and the University of Oregon. These three universities take turns to host the conference on their campuses.

Drawing on experiences from the three large public research universities represented by the three participating librarians and their East Asian libraries, the library panel discussed challenges facing Chinese studies library collection development in the post-

pandemic time. They focused on issues of library collection space shortage, pros and cons of electronic vs print collections, information accessibility issues in China, and how these challenges are changing the landscape of library collections for China studies. They pointed out that such changes may have long-term impact on the quality of research and teaching about China. The panelists received many interesting questions and thought-provoking suggestions from attending faculty and students.

It was a productive conference. Aside from the library panel, they listened to a range of high quality panels and presentations in the interdisciplinary studies of China and were especially impressed with the research of the graduate students.

HYOKYOUNG YI ATTENDED THE CONFERENCE ON THE HISTORY OF BOOKS AND READING IN KOREA AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY



Two Korean pre-modern scholars, Professor Si Nae Park at the Korea Institute at Harvard, and Professor Suyoung Son at Cornell University organized a two-day conference “New Perspectives on the History of Books and Reading in Korea” at Harvard University on December 7 and December 8, 2022. On the first day,

the conference offered an in-person rare book workshop at the Harvard-Yenching Library with a presentation by Beth McKillop showcasing Harvard's Korean rare materials, assisted by Harvard's Korean Studies librarian, Ms. Mikyung Kang. The day ended with special lectures by two renowned Korean visiting faculty at Harvard. The second day of the conference was packed with three panels of The Book and Domestic Materiality; Reading, Readability, and Literacy as Social Practice; and The Book as Technology and Intermediary. Ten renowned scholars in pre-modern Korean literature and history gave excellent presentations on their current

research development. Following the presentations, discussants elaborated their readings by offering critical feedback and comments to the presenters. The conference offered a group tour of Houghton Library, the home to Harvard's rare books and manuscripts. At the roundtable discussion, future directions of this conference and possible collaboration with libraries and librarians were also discussed among scholars and librarians. Hyokyoung Yi was one of the four librarians invited to the conference, along with three other Korean Studies librarians from Columbia, Princeton, and Cornell University. The full program and the digital copy of books are available at the [conference website](#).

HYOKYOUNG YI ATTENDED THE 2022 OVERSEAS KOREAN STUDIES LIBRARIAN WORKSHOP IN KOREA

For the first time after being forced to pause for a couple of years due to the pandemic, the National Library of Korea resumed the Overseas Korean Studies Librarian Workshop in person in Seoul from October 17 to October 21, 2022. Twenty Korean Studies librarians from major Korean studies libraries in Asia, America, and Europe have been invited to the workshop, which provided a great opportunity for participants to improve knowledge on library

resources and management skills. Participants also gained updates on Korean studies library trends through lectures given by experts in the field followed by discussions. Hyokyoung Yi, Korean Studies Librarian from Tateuchi EAL, participated in the workshop and presented the pilot project of exhibiting the UW Libraries' Korean special collection via the open-source platform Omeka.



Hyokyoung Yi (third row, third from right) at the Overseas Korean Studies Librarian Workshop in Seoul, Korea.

WORKING ON THE DUNHUANG PROJECT

by Lucy Li

I started as a student employee at the Tateuchi EAL in the beginning of 2021. As a student assistant for projects and China Studies, I helped Zhijia Shen, Director of the Tateuchi EAL and the team with events and exhibits. After helping with the first-ever virtual celebration of the 2021 Lunar New Year over Zoom, Zhijia told me that we were going to work on something big, a project on Dunhuang.

The *Dunhuang Caves on the Silk Road* is a collaborative project of the Tateuchi EAL with the Dunhuang Foundation and Dunhuang Academy. I started the project with translating and subtitling a Dunhuang Foundation webinar on Dunhuang arts. I got acquainted with the subject of Dunhuang through this lecture and found Dunhuang a fascinating subject. It withstood the fleeting sands from the Gobi Desert and the flowing times of different dynasties.

Our next task was to create a project website for information exchange. Shuqi Ye, an intern at Tateuchi EAL at the time, established the Dunhuang Project website on the WordPress platform. I filled the website with contents of exhibitions and extended readings. The website will announce guest speakers starting in spring 2023 when the speaker series kicks off. News about the project and affiliated organizations will also be updated on the website. Most importantly, it will supplement our events by more in depth readings and videos produced by the Dunhuang Academy. The Dunhuang Academy is generous to share high resolution images and translated introductions of selected caves to be uploaded onto the website.

Our virtual exhibit started with three caves that represented some of the Dunhuang arts. Using Dunhuang Academy and Tateuchi EAL resources, I created several sample pages introducing Mogao Caves 254, 285, and 172. Zhijia gave a lot of encouragement after seeing the first three caves being put together into a virtual exhibit on the Omeka platform. I added three more caves from Mogao, Cave 220, 061, and 003 from the Tang, Song, and Yuan dynasties so that each cave could showcase styles from a different dynasty. I relied heavily on Digital Dunhuang, the virtual tour website created by the Dunhuang Academy where users could “walk through” the caves at the click of their mouse.

After completing the virtual exhibit of the six Mogao Caves in the summer of 2021, I had a life changing event



of my own. My family decided to move from Los Angeles to Seattle during that summer. Before then, my communication with the Tateuchi EAL team was purely remote. After settling in Seattle, I finally met in person with Zhijia who had guided me throughout this project, and Shuqi, who had aided with technical works for the project. We met at the University Village Ding Tai Fung and brainstormed on our next steps over steamed dumplings. Shuqi was leaving due to her employment term ending that summer. I will have to take on a bigger share of the project until we find another teammate.

In September 2022, Summer Dai, a new graduate student joined our team, bringing her strong Chinese history and literature skills to the project and gave a comprehensive review of the Dunhuang project writings. We started to create a physical exhibit on Dunhuang with Canva together, using mostly materials from the virtual exhibit, but incorporating new design elements. We ran through the UW Libraries Catalog for Dunhuang subject materials, and physically checked them before selecting only the most illustrative and representative ones for display. On December 12, 2022, after we finished setting up the exhibition in the Allen Library, we were a bit proud seeing our richly colored images blending elegantly into the modern library. The exhibition contains 28 posters introducing 6 Mogao Caves, 7 groups of Dunhuang manuscripts, and stories on the Dunhuang Caves. In addition, the exhibition also displays a selection of over twenty items from Tateuchi EAL’s collection of scholarly works on Dunhuang, its caves, arts, and manuscripts.

The Dunhuang Project will continue to introduce Dunhuang to our students, faculty, and community. I will be graduating this upcoming June finishing my two master's degrees in Library and Information Science and China Studies. I hope my fellow student employees will continue working on this project. I also hope that after I graduate, I may take a trip to Dunhuang and see in person this magnificent place that I’ve been working on remotely for the past years.

DR. IAN CHAPMAN LEFT TATEUCHI EAL FOR THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

In September 2022, we said goodbye to Dr. Ian Chapman, then the Chinese and Taiwanese Reference, Instruction, and Liaison Librarian at Tateuchi EAL. Ian started working with us in June 2019. He provided reference instructions to both graduate and undergraduate students in China and Taiwan studies, and served as the liaison between the library and multiple China and Taiwan studies related interdisciplinary departments. During his tenure at Tateuchi EAL, Ian served as the host of the Tateuchi East Asia Library Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies webinars under the Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop Series. He was also a key member of Tateuchi EAL's publishing committee, which includes the role of editor of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletter. Ian has taken on a permanent position as the Chinese Studies Librarian at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C.

MS. YAN ZHU TAKES ON LECTURER ROLE AT UW ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE DEPARTMENT

In September 2022, our former Interim Circulation Supervisor Ms. Yan Zhu resigned from Tateuchi EAL. She has taken on the Lecturer position at the UW Department of East Asian Languages and Literature teaching upper division Chinese courses. Yan started at Tateuchi EAL as Circulation and Marking Technician Lead in March 2018 and was later promoted to the Access Services and Marking Specialist and Interim Circulation Supervisor positions. She provided superb public services to our patrons, helped train many circulation student employees, and contributed significantly to the inventory project at the Kane Auxiliary stacks. Yan also ran a successful outreach program, Chinese Tea Hour, to provide support to students for Chinese language learning.

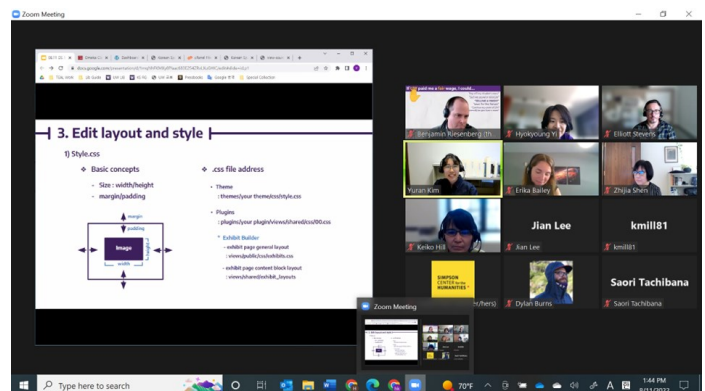
CIRCULATION AND MARKING TECHNICIAN LEAD AND LIBRARY INTERN CHUN LI ENDS INTERNSHIP AT TATEUCHI EAL

Our Circulation and Marking Technician Lead and Library Intern Chun Li finished her one year internship

term in September 2022. Chun was a graduate of the UW Information School and started working for the Tateuchi EAL as a student assistant during her Master of Information and Library Science (MLIS) graduate studies. She successfully led a team of student assistants to complete the main part of the inventory work at the Kane auxiliary stacks in preparation for the collection relocation. She plans to pursue PhD studies in library and information science.

GOODBYE TO KOREA FOUNDATION VISITING LIBRARIAN YURAN KIM

Ms. Yuran Kim, the Korea Foundation Visiting Librarian, has successfully finished her 10 months internship at the Tateuchi EAL and returned to Korea in early November 2022. During her stay at the UW, she contributed a lot by updating the Korean Studies LibGuide pages with new contents. She not only helped with the Booksori live Zoom sessions but also led three recorded sessions by organizing lively discussions on books with invited community members. After the sessions, she edited the recorded videos and uploaded them onto the UW Libraries YouTube channel. The last project she was deeply involved in was to build a pilot digital exhibit of the Korean special collection on the open-source platform Omeka. She was invited to share her experience and knowhow at the UW Libraries Open Scholarship Commons Workshop in August 2022. Yuran's skillsets working with new technologies and her positive working attitude will be missed a lot.



Ms. Yuran Kim (second row, first from left) presenting at OSC workshop in August 2022.



Tateuchi East Asia Library Beckmann Reading Room (photograph by Taewoong Kang)

THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER AND BLOG WELCOME YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Do you use the Tateuchi East Asia Library? Have our materials or resources contributed to your research, study, or teaching? Have you visited our spaces or attended our events? If you have any library-related story to share, *we want to hear from you!*

For article and submission guidelines, see: www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news/newsletter-submissions.

We look forward to seeing your byline in an upcoming issue!

ABOUT THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

The Tateuchi East Asia Library Newsletter is produced by the library's staff. Inquiries concerning content and subscription requests may be directed to the editors, Zhijia Shen (zhijia@uw.edu) and Jian Lee (jlee37@uw.edu).

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Current and back issues of the Tateuchi EAL Newsletter are available online at www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news



UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Tateuchi East Asia Library



Box 353527 322 Gowen Hall

Seattle, WA 98195-3527

phone: 206.543.4490

fax: 206.221.5298

uwlib-eastAsia@uw.edu

<http://www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia>

