

## **CEAL Plenary Business and Program Minutes**

Wednesday, March 14, 2012  
10:00am-12:00pm  
Dominion Ballroom South  
Sheraton Centre Toronto Hotel

### **Plenary I: Business**

The business portion of CEAL's 2012 plenary session consisted of the following activities.

#### **10:00-10:05am      Introductions and Recognitions**

(go to the link to see the PowerPoint presented at the session)

Joy Kim, President of CEAL acknowledged new members and first-time attendees, those who retired since the last meeting, CEAL members who passed in the last year, and she recognized outgoing members of the Executive Board.

(ADD NAMES)

Ellen Hammond (Member-at-Large)

Beth Katzoff (Secretary)

Joy Kim (President)

Dawn Lawson (Secretary 2009-2011, Ph.D. Fulbright scholarship, Beth served her remaining term)

Ai-Lin Yang (Treasurer)

Ying Zhang (Member-at-large)

#### **Announcements:**

1. Shi Deng will circulate cards for Philip Melzer who retired. These should be returned to Deng after signing.
2. LC cataloging internship program: Chiaki Aita from U. Maryland will receive \$1000 to intern at LC this year.
3. Deng Fang Shao at Stanford has accepted the position of Chief of the Asian Division, LC

Each speaker will introduce themselves.

#### **10:05-10:10am      Report on East Asian Library Resource Group of Australia (EALRGA) - Rebecca Wong (Secretary)**

Rebecca Wong is the Manager of Menzies Library, Australian National University. The Aim of EALRGA is to promote awareness of East Asian library resources and librarianship in Australia.

Chair: Bick-har Yeung (U Melbourne)

Members are located in NZ, HK, Japan, US, PRC, with vendor representatives

Arrange annual meeting, library panels, EALRGA Mailing list, Newsletter (biennial), central register for major Chinese resources (on trial)

EALRGA Committee:

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/SpecialProj/NLA/EALRGA/committee.html>

EALRGA Newsletter:

<http://coombs.anu.edu.au/SpecialProj/NLA/EALRGA/newsletter.html>

10:10-10:15am      **Report on JEAL as a Peer-Reviewed Journal – Gail King (Editor, JEAL)**

King discussed the 1<sup>st</sup> peer reviewed issue for JEAL. Members of the editorial board are CEAL Executive Board Members-at-Large. King then made an appeal for journal article contributions.

10:15-10:20am      **CEAL Web and CEAL Logo Task Force - Rob Britt (Chair of CEAL Library Technology Committee)**

Britt appealed to CEAL members for help with the CEAL blogs:

<http://cealnews.blogspot.com/>, [cealjobs.blogspot.com/](http://cealjobs.blogspot.com/)

If anyone wants to help, the CEAL blogs need editing

If there are announcements, please send them to Britt for posting.

Britt discussed the CEAL logo and the Special Committee set up to create a new CEAL logo in August 2011. The charge for the Special Committee is to recommend a new CEAL logo for EB's approval, which then will be voted by the general membership. This committee consists of Britt, Susan Xue, Setsuko Noguchi, Yunah Sung, Gail King, with Peter Zhou and Joy Kim as ex-officio members. The charge was to recommend a new design for the CEAL logo. In November, the committee sought a bid from a design company, which they found to be very expensive. They also considered having an online logo contest. In December 2011, they decided to solicit designs from local university art/design departments, offering \$500. As of January 2012, they received 3 submissions.

<http://www.eastasianlib.org/logo/index.htm>

The plan is to announce a winning design or the decision to retain the current design by April 13<sup>th</sup>. Contact Britt with questions.

10:20-10:25am      **Election Results – Ying Zhang**

Zhang thanked the 10 candidates for their commitment to serving the CEAL community. This year there were 19 nominations from 13 people.

75% of eligible voters responded, and the results are as follows:

Vice President: Ellen Hammond

Secretary: Kenneth Klein

Treasurer: Hee-sook Shin

Members-at-Large: Toshie Marra, Wen-ling Liu

The first meeting for new EB members is tomorrow at 8am, Oxford Room.

10:25-10:28am      **Announcements - Stephen Qiao (University of Toronto)**  
The CEAL Fellowship Dinner will be held at the Mandarin Restaurant (inside Canada Square Building)

Open Houses:

On Thursday afternoon:

The East Asian Library, Royal Ontario Museum, 4:00-7:00pm

Japan Foundation Library, 5:00-7:00pm

On Friday:

Canada Hong Kong library, 1:00-2:00pm

Symposium on China's Macao, Organized by UT and U Macao, in Richard Lee Canada Library, next Monday

10:28-10:30am      **Transfer of the Seal of CEAL from Joy Kim to Peter Zhou**

## **Plenary II:**

The theme for this year:

**“Organizational Changes in Research Libraries and their impact on East Asian Collections: CEAL’s Strategic Position”**

10:30-10:35am      **Welcome and Introduction of Speakers – Joy Kim, (University of Southern California)**

10:35am-1:55pm      **Keynote: “The Future of Libraries and Area Studies Collections” - Larry Alford (Chief Librarian, University of Toronto Libraries)**

Larry Alford spoke as a senior administrator at the largest research library in Canada and the third in North America. Alford was the Dean of Temple University, and has worked at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Alford spoke about the importance of cultural and historical records. Since much information today is ephemeral, Alford asked if our descendants will have access to this great information. Libraries and their area studies collections are critical to preserving the present for that future. Alford mentioned his experience at Chapel Hill where they purchased thousands of ephemera related to the former Soviet Union’s demise. Building unique collections is critical and sometimes librarians must find atypical routes to building these collections. Alford talked about the challenge for librarians to make people understand that our libraries and collections are heavily used and not going away. While pundits don’t see what actually goes on, they need to understand that print still matters. Alford talked about the importance of hard to acquire print materials. Although convenience is important, Alford said that it is not nearly as important as the ability to use digital information in new ways.

He then went on to make the following points:

- Scholars demand digital materials, but we shouldn’t be complacent or resist change made possible by the newest revolution in knowledge access.

- Librarians should acquire the hard to obtain resources and then digitize while preserving the original. (Ex. Diamond Sutra Preservation at British Library)
- We should not apologize in research libraries for collecting materials that will not be used in 10 years. We collect not just for today but also for scholars 100 years from now.
- We serve new forms of scholarship.
- Cooperate and compete, but cooperate first.
- We should share our expertise and build a webscale network.
- We should partner internally, figure out how to acquire social media and other contemporary digital information.
- We should cooperate, engage, and connect.

10:55-11:10am      **“Strategic Directions at Harvard Libraries” - James K. Cheng, Harvard – (Yenching Library, Harvard University)**

James Cheng presented the radical changes taking place at Harvard University and their impact on the East Asian Library (Yenching). He described them as the “Most radical change in Harvard’s history from day one until now.” The traditional library system at Harvard has been in place for over 300 years. The 73 libraries on campus are now experiencing “coordinated decentralization” as they will be grouped into 5 affinity groups. Each of which has a head, but no authority for budget. They are as follows:

1. professional schools – business, law, divinity, Kennedy
2. sciences – all libraries, medical school
3. social sciences and humanities – (largest with 22), includes Harvard Yenching, Widener, anthropology, and more
4. culture and arts libraries – fine arts, music, school of design, archives,
5. rare book libraries and special collections – Schlesinger (women’s studies)

The groups share services (information and technical services), access services (circulation, ILL, staff maintenance, Harvard depository), digital programs, and financial services. Harvard’s budget for the whole university is 2.2 billion dollars. While it still has a substantial investment in its libraries, there are concerns regarding Harvard’s collection development. With its total collection of 17 million volumes of books, in recent years, Harvard has fallen behind 2 of its peers (Princeton and Yale) in its expenditures. The plan is expected to take 18 months to design and implement with 2013 as the goal for implementation.

Cheng discussed the impact on Harvard Yenching Library as being “so far so good.” He then gave background on Yenching Library. Since its inception in 1928 until 1976, the library functioned like a private collection both administratively and financially under the wing of the Harvard Yenching Institute. In 1976 the board of trustees handed off management to Harvard College Library. Each year Yenching receives ½ of its operating budget from the HY Institute. Cheng hopes the Yenching Library will regain its autonomy through reorganization. Although two years ago there was a plan to centralize technical services and move them offsite. Library staff

and faculty expressed their concern, so tech services remains within Yenching Library. Integrating the libraries offers benefits as well. Library staff and donors agree that the heart and soul of any good library is its collections. Cheng said the Yenching library will continue to develop 25,000 titles per year of print collections. They will protect the book budget and continue to develop digitization projects. They will change their workflow and make special collections available and free on the web. Harvard encourages Open Access, building partnership consortia, Borrow Direct participation among Ivy League Schools, and is planning to meet with 8 IVY school East Asian Librarians. Harvard will encourage use of digital literature and work to improve its IT infrastructure. Cheng showed slides of the proposed allocation of libraries, and other organizational charts. Cheng reiterated that this is still a work in progress, and that generates anxiety among some staff.

11:10-11:25am      **“Exploring New Horizons and Boundaries: An Ongoing Discussion in the University of California Libraries” – Peter Zhou (UC Berkeley)**

Peter Zhou described the UC libraries as different universities, campuses, and patrons, but they all work together, recently developing strategic dialogue about the future of UC libraries. Their goals and assumptions are:

1. Need to retain core value of research library while expanding horizons in response to a rapidly changing environment.
2. Adjusting to the print-to digital transition: retain the traditional strengths
3. Archive economies of scale when possible
4. Adapt libraries to new information landscape and patrons' demands

Zhou discussed intercampus Cooperation among East Asian Librarians, in which communication, strategy, and exploration of new ground continues. In particular, there are coordinated serials cancellation, patron driven acquisitions, and collaborative reference services. There are UC wide discussions of the next generation of technical services, sharing language expertise in a system-wide processing of collections in Non-Roman languages. Their efforts include reducing redundant cataloging activities, establishing UC wide standards and practices, such as automated transliteration, online cataloging, shelf ready services, and UC wide effort to reduce cataloging backlogs. Integrating East Asian technical services with the parent library's tech services is NOT currently being contemplated as there is general understanding that this would be like the expression, “Cut the feet to fit the shoes.” Zhou discussed the shared print program to broaden and deepen UC library collection in the service of research, teaching, patient care and public services, promoting other models of collection development, preserving important cultural asset, and offering a data Repository.

The goals are to deliver quality collections and services despite reduced budgets, to increase efficiency, and to come out from behind the desk.

11:25-11:40am      **“Reorganization of the Technical Services in Princeton” - Tai-Loi Ma (Princeton University)**

Tai-Loi Ma discussed changes since the March 2010 mandatory reorganization of technical services at Princeton. His overall view was that nothing was destroyed. There was no processing backlog and the quality of cataloging remained good. The library had to cut costs due to financial losses, so consolidation was deemed necessary. As a result, they gave up HR in the library. Hiring staff members now has to be approved by committee. In this context there was little chance to maintain the status quo, but they were able to explain weaknesses in the original plan and obtain support from faculty. Although the plan was originally to move East Asian technical staff to the main library technical services department, East Asian library staff and faculty discussed this issue and were able to get the library administration to agree. Ma discussed some unexpected problems in terms of technical services, peculiar rules regarding word division dictated by LC, and the loss of 2 cataloging positions (1 Chinese and 1 Japanese), mainly due to the Universities' early retirement incentive. Overall, reorganization has helped the library gain more than it has lost. The East Asian library is now at a critical juncture as later this summer, the general technical services department will be moved off campus, while the East Asian library technical services staff will stay on campus.

In Conclusion, Ma said he hopes library administrations will listen to reasoning and modify original plans if necessary.

11:40-12:00pm      **Q&A**

Questions were raised concerning savings from moving technical services staff off-site and how communication can be facilitated once staff is moved. Ma answered that the East Asian library now gets support from the general technical services department and as for communication there are frequent discussions with AUL.

James Cheng was asked if there is any truth to the rumor that the Harvard Yenching collection would merge with the rest of the English collection. He said this rumor is false. While there is no talk of moving CJK materials, their Western language collection duplicates Widener library's collection by 98%. That means they might discontinue the growth of the Western language collection. A related question confirmed that in terms of library to library delivery, if books are from Widener Library, they would be returned there.

Cataloging questions addressed the use of OCLC or vendors, with a response that where copy-cataloging from OCLC could be done, that would be the preference. Check OCLC first and if there is a record adopt it. If not, go to CALLIS. While there is outsourcing from vendors, names would not be revealed.

Questions were raised as to how budget decisions are made. Alford said one needs to look at many different factors, including use of materials (critical). Not a believer in zero based budgeting, he said there are historical reasons for budgeting that need

to be taken into account. One must be fair across the university. Look at faculty who are involved, loud, and powerful. Try to listen to faculty and to students.

A final question addressed the need to add new and unstable media to the collections, including social media resources. The answer focused on cooperation, forming partnerships among libraries here, in Europe, and Asia. In the digital environment, many principles of records management apply to new media. We can still preserve what is needed for the future.