Council on
East Asian Libraries

2024 Annual meeting

March 13-14, 2024

SEATTLE CONVENTION CENTER

Introduction

Dr. David Schaberg Professor and Dean of UCLA

David Schaberg (BA, Stanford, 1986; MA, PhD, Harvard, 1996) is Professor in Asian Languages & Cultures and past Dean of Humanities at UCLA. He has published articles on early Chinese literature, historiography, and philosophy as well as Greek/Chinese comparative issues. He is author of A Patterned Past: Form and Thought in Early Chinese Historiography (2001), which was awarded the Association for Asian Studies 2003 Levenson Prize for Books in Chinese Studies (Pre-1900 Category) and translator, with Stephen Durrant and Wai-yee Li, of Zuo Tradition / Zuozhuan (University of Washington, 2016), which won the Association for Asian Studies 2018 Patrick D. Hanan Book Prize for Translation. His most recent work addresses changing accounts of Spring and Autumn period history.

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Dr. Mahlon Meyer Reporter of *Northwest Asian Weekly*

Mahlon Meyer was educated in Buddhism, Chinese studies, and Philosophy (including hermeneutics and phenomenology) at Stanford University. He later received a master's from Harvard University, where he studied East Asian studies, including history with William Kirby and Neo-Confucianism with Tu Wei-ming. His academic education was completed at the University of Washington in the History Department, where he focused on Chinese history and early American history.

As a journalist, he worked as a staff foreign correspondent for Newsweek covering Asia and other areas. He won several awards. His writing also appeared in other publications, such as the Far Eastern Economic Review and the Dallas Morning News. He was a reporter for public radio and also had a nationally-televised program, which he hosted, on Phoenix Satellite Television, in Mandarin Chinese. He currently writes for the Northwest Asian Weekly, a community newspaper focused on AAPI issues in the greater Seattle area.

He has written three books. His most recent, "Remembering China from Taiwan," covers the flight of the Kuomintang (Guomindang) armies and regime to Taiwan in 1949 and, later, their attempts to reconnect with their families on mainland China. It was named one of the top books on the Chinese Civil War by Book Authority. Adi Ignatius, the editor of the Harvard Business Review, described the book as follows: "What a great accomplishment! It's a brilliant topic, imaginatively structured, and beautifully written." It is used as a textbook in some universities, where the students reportedly find it very evocative.

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Alice Zhao Senior Product Manager, Microsoft

Alice Zhao is a senior product manager at Microsoft, where she spearheads the integration of Open AI's cutting-edge technologies into Bing Search. She has a rich background in the tech industry, having worked at Amazon in various roles across finance, product, and analytics in the grocery and supply chain domains. She is also the founder and CEO of Good Village, a social enterprise that harnesses AI to foster nutrition, technology, and environmental mindfulness. Alice loves teaching and simplifying complex concepts. She has been a panelist to discuss AI's impact and potential at top MBA programs such as Hong Kong Chinese University and University of Chicago, and will share her insights about AI's impact on how humans learn and think at the 2024 CEAL annual meeting.

Introduction

Dongyun Ni Chinese Studies Librarian at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

Dongyun Ni is the Chinese Studies Librarian at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Library, where she curates a research-level collection of materials in various formats and languages for Chinese studies. Her primary responsibilities include collection development and management, reference and research consultation, and bibliographic instruction, all tailored to support the research and learning needs of students and faculty at UHM. Dongyun's previous cataloging experience enhances her ability to build a robust research collection and serve the academic community effectively.

Dongyun's professional service is extensive and varied. Beyond her contributions through publications and presentations, she actively participates in organizations such as the Society for Chinese Studies Librarians, the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance, and the Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), where she chairs the Statistics Committee.

With an education background in Computer Science and years of experience in both public and technical services, Dongyun has an interest in the applications of innovative technologies, particularly AI, in library settings. She is eager to share her observations and thoughts on the potential applications of AI in library operations and services.

Introduction

Haruko Nakamura Librarian for Japanese Studies at Yale University

Haruko Nakamura has been the Librarian for Japanese Studies at the East Asia Library, Yale University, since 2004. She worked previously at Washington University in St. Louis as the Japanese Cataloger / Subject Librarian. Haruko has served on and chaired a number of national, regional, and Yale library committees on collection development, special collections, archiving digital resources, and the like such as the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources (NCC) and CEAL's Committee of Japanese Material (CJM). Currently, she is serving for CEAL's Library Technology Committee (CLT) and NCC's Comprehensive Digitization and Discoverability Program (CDDP).

She has collaborated with local and global communities on various projects and publications, such as the "Treasures from Japan" project from 2015 as well as an intercollegiate research project in-progress on an 18th century manuscript held at the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library. Her past independent projects included developing a Japanese LGBTQ ephemera collection at Yale and biographical research on Asakawa Kan'ichi (1873-1948), now published in her book chapter, "Kan'ichi Asakawa and the IALA: Insights into Asakawa's Relationship with Alice V. Morris," as well as in the Asakawa Epistolary Network Project, an accompanying DH component of her work.

Questions to Prof. David Schaberg

- Based on your leadership in higher education and in East Asian studies, how much do you think generative AI could affect teaching and research in a university?
- Do you expect and accept generative one day AI take over the teaching of some undergraduate classes?
- Do you accept using research resources AI generated or translated?
- Do you expect and accept library service and reference consultation from generative AI?

Yes, but…

- Slowly—
- Consultatively—
- With implications for "thought"—
- With an eye to tomorrow

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Questions to Haruko Nakamura

- Based on your expertise in East Asian collections, do you accept the development of library resources for teaching and research designed or decided by AGI?
- Will you collect resources completely produced by generative AGI?
- Do you honor copyright of the works produced by AGI? Why?

Current Situations …

Brief history of AGI products in Japan:

- 2016: The Hoshi Awards
- 2022: *Boy Sprouted*
- 2024: The Akutagawa Prize

Experience with Faculty and students:

- Materially engaged curriculum
- Class assignments - Citation chaining
- Bit size of info. vs. knowledge in a whole package
- "Plagiarism is dead"

With library colleagues:

- Language in license agreements
- Purchase data sets, audio books read by or movies with subtitles provided by AI
- AI watermarking
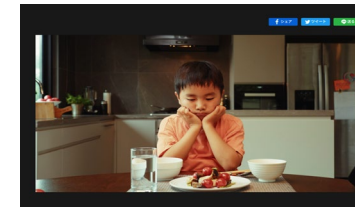
To Prepare …

Copyright and Fair Use:

Provenance of ideas and dissembled/disassembled knowledge:

Digital Divide / Bias / Misinformation:

What are potentials?

The Hoshi Awards

Boy Sprouted

Thank you!

Tōkyōto dōjōtō

Questions to Alice Zhao

- As a member of the AGI creative team, do you think AGI will eventually eliminate some positions in education?
- When Microsoft Bing, ChatGPT, or Google Gemini answers questions, provides resources and helps writing papers, do you think AGI will early or later replaces library resource and reference service?

Questions to Dongyun Ni

- Besides using AI technology in support library service, how much do you think generative AI could affect on the East Asian library?
- Do you accept generative AI operates and manages the library based on the data it learned and collected?
- Do you accept generative AI replaces acquisitions, cataloging and access service?
- Do you accept generative takes over reference service and resource selection?

FUTURE EAST ASIAN LIBRARIES AND GENERATIVE AI

Librarian Expertise

- understanding context
- critical thinking
- community connections

- ➢ **Enhanced discoverability**
- ➢ **Informed decisions**
- ➢ **Personalized service**

AI Strengths

- data analysis
- translation
- pattern recognition

Questions to Dr. Mahlon Meyer

- Based on your academic and career background, how do you think institutions, scholars, journalists, and others who work in the field of East Asian Studies can effectively respond to the challenges posed by Artificial Generative Intelligence (AGI)?
- Given the increasing use of AGI in areas such as journalism, how can human beings increase their unique contributions to news reports on East Asia?
- What do you see as the pros and cons of the AGI impact on Asian-American communities in North America, particularly on the people whose primary information resources are in East Asian languages, including students, scholars, librarians, and others?