NCC 3-D Conference: First Day Wrap Up Session Notes
Charting New Partnerships to Support Japanese Studies in the Global Information Society
Led by Peter Young, Chief of the Asian Division, Library of Congress

The session began with a review of the goals of the 3-D Conference:

- **To solicit advice on new programs that should be undertaken in the coming decade to provide broader and more equitable access to information resources for those interested in Japan;**
- **To strengthen collaborative networks among Japanese information stakeholders; and**
- **To improve and support global access to Japanese information resources.**

The first day's wrap-up session synthesized the key ideas discussed during the first day.

Ideas suggested on the first day included:

- Create a "Japanese ARTSTOR"
- Promote the concept of "Virtual Visiting Scholars" to enable unaffiliated scholars to use the major collections
- Need to publicize the important faculty-librarian liaison and consultant roles NCC plays
- Should a reference and referral service like AskEASL be revived? If so, who are the collaborators?

There need to be strategies for better supporting undergraduate faculty:

Most faculty members graduated from Ivy League or "Tanaka Ten" institutions where they had access to large academic library collections. Few realized how fortunate they were to have free access to such a rich range of library resources until they left graduate school to teach in institutions without such resources. NCC was created in 1991 in part to better serve such faculty, and their needs have always been a major focus of NCC programs. How can NCC do more for the majority of Japan studies faculty and students who are now in smaller or less well-endowed institituions?

- Develop materials for librarians to use in helping graduate students while they are job-hunting; when they are interviewed, job-applicants should always visit the library, meet the librarians and learn the resources that will be available in a new position.
- Once they have an offer in hand they should negotiate for Japanese resource access as part of their hiring package (either for an institutional license or funds for individual subscriptions as part of their professional development package).
- The faculty panel was a strong reminder of the important role NCC plays in serving East Asia specialists
- Any planning for new NCC initiatives should begin by thinking about the most basic needs of such users and their students

How can NCC better serve smaller libraries?

- NCC needs to develop outreach programs for small university to teach faculty to use resources.
- If NCC had funding, it could hire an MLIS graduate to serve as a virtual librarian.
- Develop a "buddy system" between established libraries and institutions building their JS program from the ground up.
- Develop research and teaching teams at small institutions that include faculty and librarians mentored by NCC.
- Keep research and students connected; if you have to make a choice between research and students, research always loses.

How can NCC best broaden access to digital resources for individuals and small institutions?

- One of NCC's biggest strengths is linking and connecting people. NCC must find ways to employ that strength more strategically.
- Make note of the Korean contract for e-resources. Some parts of it are a good model.
- Many faculty have very heavy course loads and their only research time is in the summer. Creating short-term and summer licenses for digital resources is needed.
- Need to provide individual and single-access options.
- Possibly work with AAS to use their membership, and tiered membership fees.
- Don't use IP address, find another authentication system. (NII is creating an authentication system/service, explore that).
- Perhaps NCC should begin by reaching out to individual to help access Japanese resources, and then could broaden its services to institutions.
- Think about the economics of information, there are always some "costs" involve. We must find "win-win" situation that include all parties especially the vendors.
- Need to think of current institutional barrier or boundaries and overcome their limitation.
- Remember that managing a consortium of any size is a great deal of work.

Developing broader collaborations to manage change:

- There must be change in libraries, "the world is changing the way you don't understand."
- What can Library of Congress do?
- National Diet Library's issue on "Open Access" & "free access" vs. publishers' pressure. Currently NDL's users must to come to the physical library. However, national libraries' users are becoming global.
- LC, NCC, CEAL, NDL and AAS all need to create balanced portfolios of services.
- What are the student needs vs. researcher's needs, native speakers needs vs. academics user needs?
- The field must bridge such gaps and serve a more diverse clientele.

NCC must continue to be a strong advocate:

- Japan is losing the information race with other nations, especially Korea and China and NCC must advocate for Japan's more active participation.
- Compared with 20 years ago, there is much more information available, however Japanese resources are still not accessible to the majority of users.

- The Japanese publishing industry is afraid of opening up for fear of decline. Japan is still an information "sakoku (鎖国)" closed country.
- North American libraries need to be demanding and assertive. Japanese institutions are susceptible to "gaiatsu (外圧)."
- In Japan, there is still this old notion: "A good library brings good students and faculty" and tend to close up their door. United States is more open and accepts many Japanese foreign students.
- Japan's attitude is beginning to change and they are starting to say "we would like to exchange information with you." NCC must be a strong advocate and willing partner for these efforts.
- The Globalization of Japanese studies is taking place and NCC must expand its programs serve the global field.

Which organizations should NCC partner with?

- Continue to expand collaborations with LC
- Explore broader collaborations with AAS
- ARL/ CRL, is there a win-win potential in working with them? Are they willing?
- Must work more with Japanese counterparts and expand their number

How can NCC's website be expanded and redesigned to better serve all these needs?

- Check out "Drupal" and other systems, so much knowledge is already out there.
- Share NCC member's knowledge by wiki or blog, etc.
- Social networking is a major topic of day-two. Statistics shows astonishing numbers, millions of hits.

What other needs are there (beyond what NCC might undertake)?

- It sometimes seems as if the field pays too much attention to old/rare materials, yet, newer/latest information is much more important in science and medicine.
- There are needs for cross-discipline academic activities and cross-national collaborations.

Need a Hidden Treasures Working Group (following on Best Practices #1)

- Need to compile list of hidden collections
- Need support for curating, filtering, and evaluating those collections
- Need for digitization of such collections to make them accessible
- Need matching and outright funding
- Need metadata for preservation and conservation
- Again the question of which comes first, the digitization or the cataloging was discussed

Notes taken by Keiko Suzuki of Yale University and Jack Howard of the Royal Ontario Museum