

NCC 3-D Conference Update # 1, August 2010
From: Keiko Yokota-Carter and Victoria Bestor

Once again we thank all those who participated and those who shared the many tasks that made NCC's Third Decade (3-D) Conference in Philadelphia so successful. We thank you for sharing your many concerns and ideas. The updated 3-D Conference Website contains summaries of our discussions, outlines of recommendations for future NCC independent and collaborative projects, and a growing list of updates, beginning with this one. Please visit it at <http://www.nccjapan.org/3DConference/index.html>.

Below is a summary of action items in process.

1) Revision of MVS Policies:

a. NCC is working with MVS's funders (the Japan US Friendship Commission and JPT) to revise MVS guidelines to create a two-tiered grant structure with up to 40% of grants earmarked for smaller institutions. Those plans include provisions for developing different cost-share requirements for smaller and larger institutions as well as possible support and subventions to better enable small libraries to apply for MVS. Such provisions must be approved by the JUSFC's Commissioners at their next annual meeting, and if approved will begin as of FY 2011-12. The 2010-11 MVS Grant-competition will proceed following current MVS policies and schedule with announcements forthcoming later this summer.

b. It is not possible under the current provisions of NCC's grant from the JUSFC for digital resource licensing to be substituted for the current Multi-Volume Sets Grants Program. NCC will continue to explore other ways of supporting the use of digital resources at smaller institutions.

2) Support for Smaller Institutions:

a. NCC and its Committees are working to develop new projects especially for faculty and non-Japan specialist librarians in smaller institutions. For example, we encourage the formation of faculty-librarian research teams at small institutions, and will develop strategies to train those teams to more effectively use Japan-related resources available online. NCC submitted a proposal to offer a workshop on the 2011 AAS program aimed at this audience. Further NCC plans are under consideration, such as a team-training program during 2011-12, depending on funding.

b. NCC's ILL/DD Committee is working on improving the Global ILL Framework homepage, to make the materials more accessible to librarians who do not speak Japanese, and to broadening strategies for working with interlibrary loan librarians through both online and direct training opportunities. At the June 2010 ALA Meeting former ILL/DD Committee co-chair Amy Paulus of University of Iowa spoke on the GIF project to share this service among smaller institutions without Japan Studies / East Asian Librarians. Redesign of the ILL/DD pages will be one of the first redesigns undertaken on the NCC Website (see further details in number 6 below).

3) Digital Resources:

NCC is continuing to work with Japanese resource vendors to determine the best business models to employ, and to define the nature of annual and/or short-term subscription options that can be made available to individuals and small institutions that currently do not have access to Japanese digital resources. The NCC's DRC continues to disseminate information on Digital Resources, to distribute information through academic and small library online groups, and to serve as a clearinghouse for promoting broader access to digital materials. NCC has also proposed a roundtable on the AAS program to discuss the proliferation of e-books from Japan.

4) NCC is working with a task force headed by Fabiano Rocha of the University of Toronto to develop a specialized training program for junior Japanese studies librarians and other non-Japan specialist librarians who are responsible for Japanese materials. The program when offered will be open to qualified librarians worldwide, and pending funding, is tentatively planned to take place in conjunction with the 2012 CEAL and AAS Meetings in Toronto.

5) "The Image Use Protocol Taskforce" completed its goals. The creation of "Image Use Protocol Working Group" is to be discussed in the NCC meeting in September. The details will be announced later.

6) Redesign and expansion of the NCC Website was the subject of numerous recommendations at the 3-D Conference and a Website Working Group (WWG) will be formed to plan upgrades, expansions, and redesign of the NCC Website with new components launched incrementally. One of the first changes is going to be conversion of all NCC URLs to use our domain name nccjapan.org. That conversion will take place very soon, with all old URL's redirected to the new site and notices sent to all lists. We expect that the conversion will aid navigation, increase browser hits for NCC, and help better brand NCC services. Individual NCC Committees will work with the WWG and with NCC's part time staff to develop new and revised Website components. Fortunately our funding from JUSFC includes annual support restricted to part-time hourly staff that will be used to further this redesign. The working group's agenda and timeline will be finalized at NCC's September 2010 meeting in Chicago.

Many of the recommendations made at NCC's 3-D Conference were of a long-term nature and will be further reviewed and planned at the September 2010 NCC Meeting and implemented in the coming years as new funding becomes available.

As noted above the summaries of all 3-D sessions are on the NCC Website at: <http://www.nccjapan.org/3DConference/index.html>. Please review and comment on those summaries. We welcome further feedback, suggestions, and volunteers.

With best regards,

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