

NCC WINTER MEETING
HOTEL DURANT
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA
JANUARY 10-11, 1997
MINUTES

All NCC members were present: K. Kahler, Chair; G. Hoetker; T. Miyakawa; H. Springer; P. Steinhoff; M. Tamanoi; K. Troost; K. Brazell; I. Morita; S. Noguchi; A. Heinrich
Guests: E. Gangloff (Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission); M. Uchiyama (The Japan Foundation, New York), E. Ito, I. Tsujimoto (The Japan Foundation, Los Angeles); H. Inoue (NACSIS)

1. Welcome and Introductions--K. Kahler, Chair

The NCC was particularly pleased to welcome guest observers from its primary funding agencies, the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and The Japan Foundation (JF), and from Japan; the guests were encouraged to participate actively in the meeting.

2. Financial Report

D. Gregor distributed a spread sheet summary of income and expenses for the 96/97 funding period and answered questions about NCC finances. NCC is in good shape and has funds for several planning meetings within this fiscal year. It is likely that the funds will be used for meetings to continue Serials Subcommittee planning with the Association of American Universities/Association of Research Libraries' Japan Journal Access Project, to plan for the implementation of the NACSIS training program, should that program be funded by the Center for Global Partnership, and to launch a newspaper project.

3. Japanese Liaison Report--T. Miyakawa

a. JS-Net Study Group

Despite the severe budgetary constraints of its sponsor, The Japan Foundation, the Study Group continued work on developing a homepage which could serve as a clearinghouse for information of interest to Japanese studies scholars in the social sciences and humanities. The Study Group is planning a brief survey of specialized institutions and organizations which are likely sources for links to the JS-Net homepage. Directory information on resource persons, reference services, grant information, and organizations who work with foreign researchers and/or develop conference/workshop programs will be contacted. It is likely that the pilot phase of the clearinghouse homepage will be available in April-June, 1997. Study Group members represent the International House of Japan, the Japanese Center for International Exchange, the Institute of Social Sciences of the University of Tokyo, Mitsubishi Research Institute, the Japan Association for Cultural Exchange and The Japan Foundation.

b. Japanese Art Catalog Library Project

The Art Catalog Library, on the 3rd floor of the Ark Mori Building, 1-12-32, Akasaka, Minato-ku (P.O. Box 518, Tokyo 107; tel: +81-3-5562-9574; fax: +81-3-5573-7493) was opened to the public on November 14, 1996. It is the first special library in Japan to collect catalogs of art exhibitions held in museums and other institutions and

organizations in Japan. Administrative and financial support was provided by the Japan Association for Cultural Exchange (ACE Japan) and grants from four private foundations and firms also provided substantial funding to establish and maintain the Library. Those donors are: Mr. Kenzo Asahara, Kitaichi Glass Work Co., Otaru, Hokkaido; Mr. Yusuke Kihara, Kihara & Co., Tokyo; Mr. Minoru Mori, Mori Building Corporation, Tokyo; Mr. Masatoshi Itoh, The Itoh Shaon Ikuei Foundation, Tokyo.

The Library is administered by ACE-Japan by two art librarians, Mr. Masaharu Taneichi and an assistant librarian. Mr. Miyakawa brought with him newspaper and journal coverage of the opening, including coverage from the Asahi, Nihon Keizai, Hokkaido, Tokyo and Shinano Mainichi, etc. The first shipment of art catalogs to the U.S. depository, the Freer Gallery, was made in July, 1996, and the second one, approximately 500-600 volumes, is scheduled for the end of March, 1997. The Art Catalog Library was pleased to receive a small donation from the Freer Gallery of 17 U.S. catalogs and an art journal, the first U.S. effort in a bilateral exchange.

c. Japan Foundation Senior Librarian Training Program

With cooperation of the National Diet Library, NACSIS and I-House of Japan JF is funding a training program for overseas Japanese studies librarians, including librarians from Oxford and Cambridge, England, Germany, France, Australia, Italy and Brazil. Two librarians from the U.S., Robert Britt (U. of Washington Law) and Yasuko Makino (Columbia) will attend the workshop which runs for three weeks in Tokyo, beginning February 16, 1997. Attendees at the workshop will receive two weeks of training in Tokyo from NACSIS and NDL and a third week will be spent in site visits to libraries and library agencies.

d. A new Center for Global Partnership Executive Managing Director has been appointed to succeed Professor Homma. Mr. Yoshihiko Wakumoto from the Toshiba Corporation has assumed his duties at CGP. He was formerly Executive Managing Director at Toshiba.

e. Mr. Miyakawa asked ACE-Japan to do a survey of Web sites of major newspapers in Japan as of January 1, 1997. All major Japanese newspapers are making current news accessible on their homepages in Japanese and English, but archival files vary by publishers. Asahi Shimbun, for example, will soon begin a service for a monthly subscription fee of 5,200 Yen. The survey summary which Mr. Miyakawa brought will be very useful in developing the NCC newspaper project.

4. Current Activities--Guest Observer Reports

a. Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission

Dr. Eric Gangloff reported on continuing budgetary difficulties because yen funds on deposit in Japan earn next to nothing in interest and because of the interest of the U.S. government in downsizing operations. Efficiency and effectiveness in program delivery are goals in government supported programs. The FY 1998 President's budget will propose that the Commission be privatized, that is, the Commission as a federal agency will be eliminated and a new, private, non-profit corporation will be established to carry on the work of the Commission. The outcome of the proposal is, of course, unknown, and it may be that the Commission will continue its current status for another year or more or be eliminated entirely and its funds dispersed.

Dr. Gangloff distributed copies of the report from the Japan side of the CULCON Information Access Working Group and requested that the NCC members submit

comments to the Commission. D. Gregor will collect and summarize for NCC. He also distributed surveys conducted in the U.S. and Japan on the need for government document information. In the U.S. the survey was done by the Washington Strategies Group; it pointed up the wide ranging interest in obtaining such information here in the U.S.

b. NACSIS

Dr. Inoue distributed useful packets of information about NACSIS products and services. He indicated that he had spoken to Mr. Chano, Director of CGP in New York, about the role of NACSIS in the training program proposed by the NCC. Staff of the Japan Documentation Center based in Tokyo were invited to attend the NACSIS training which will be part of the JF training program to be held in February.

c. The Japan Foundation

Ms. Maki Uchiyama of the New York office reported the receipt of 55 applications in the Library Support program which this year has a total of Yen 24,000,000 available. Because of budgetary difficulties, The Japan Foundation may need to cut back on the number of awards. Both JF and the Center for Global Partnership now have homepages.

Mr. Isao Tsujimoto of The Japan Foundation's Los Angeles office introduced Mr. Eiichi Ito, the recently hired librarians for the "Nihongo Library" maintained in Los Angeles. The Library is primarily for the teaching of the Japanese language, but it can be involved with training U.S. librarians. The Foundation wants the Library to be part of the library scene in the U.S. It provides circulation by mail and houses 10,000 monographs and between 3-400 journal titles.

Mr. Tsujimoto underscored the budgetary problems and indicated that JF may receive up to a 30% cut this year. They will need to restructure how funds are provided. K. Brazell pointed out inefficiencies in the way yen and dollars are distributed by JF and JUSFC. For programs like the NCC which are funded jointly by the Foundation and the Commission, it may be possible to rethink how yen and dollars are dispersed.

Mr. Tsujimoto also suggested that the NCC needed to approach other organizations for support, for example:

- Ford Foundation which is interested in distance learning
- Japanese publishers
- computer manufacturers, e.g., Sun
- consider corporations interested in areas, rather than libraries, per se
- Freeman Foundation

5. Project: Art Catalog Project in the U.S. (JAC II)

K. Kahler reported for Y. Matsudo, Japanese Art Catalog Task Force Chair, that a second shipment of 5-600 catalogs is nearly ready for shipping from Japan and that the Freer Gallery will issue an updated report when 200 art catalogs have been cataloged.

The group discussed how to go about organizing the reciprocal project in the U.S. in order to collect catalogs from U.S. exhibits of Japanese art for deposit at the Freer and at the ACE-Japan Art Catalog Library in Tokyo. Both E. Gangloff and I. Tsujimoto offered to help with names of individuals who can help identify museums and galleries which exhibit Japanese art. D. Gregor will then write for assistance in identifying people within those organizations who could be counted on to send catalogs to the depository libraries.

6. WWW Project Report--K. Troost, A. Heinrich

K. Troost updated the group on the content available at UCB (Japanese records from the East Asian Library Catalog, kuchie images, and NCC's MVS Project information), OSU (company histories, host for Japanese film materials from the Kinema Club, many links to other sites with East Asian information), MIT (materials on Japanese language teaching) and Duke (bibliographies, how to access resources not held in your library, used for teaching). Amy Heinrich reported that Columbia is awaiting institutional guidelines for creating Web pages, although they have prepared images of unique resources in Japanese literature and are ready to open the site once the guidelines are agreed upon. OSU also had funding through HEA Title IIA to work with CIC libraries to make Web resources available. Grant period ended on August 31, 1996.

7. AAS Booth--D. Gregor

NCC will be 1/3 of a group of 3 booths which the AAS is organizing with Maureen Donovan as the AAS Coordinator. NCC wants to feature the WWW project resources and to have NCC members staff the booth for 1-2 hours each in order to talk with people about the activities of the organization. I. Morita indicated that one of her staff members would be available at AAS and could help with the booth.

8. Newspaper Project--D. Gregor, NCC members

D. Gregor had requested feedback on the idea of creating a finding aid for newspaper which would be made available on the World Wide Web. Although not many comments were received, there was thoughtful support for the idea, and we will proceed to form a Task Force to plan the effort. Suggestions for Task Force members included: Eddie Harrison (U. Washington), E. Yutani (recently retired from UCSD), T. Aoki (Harvard), S. Hastings (Purdue), E. Krauss (UCSD), a representative from CRL.

9. NEAC Report

K. Brazell reported on NEAC's interest in and support for the training program grant submitted to CGP to train librarians and end users in the use of the NACSIS databases. She needs to know for reporting at the AAS meeting what the requirements are for hosting a training workshop at an institution so NEAC members can think about hosting one at their institution.

10. Recon Survey Report and Project Development

D. Gregor distributed a spread sheet summary of some of the recon survey data which will be made available on the East Asian Library Cooperative World Wide Web at OSU. The group brainstormed possible projects. Suggestions included serials, ceased serials, subject areas of prime interest to scholars. D. Gregor will explore funding possibilities.

11. MVS Project Report

M. Tamanoi reported that the MVS Subcommittee is attempting to review and score applications without a face-to-face meeting based on computer tools developed by

H. Morimoto, co-chair of the MVS Subcommittee. He will report at the AAS meeting in Chicago. This year there is a total of Yen 1,238,433 available for MVS purchases. 12 institutions have requested 59 titles totaling Yen 42,379,494, so selection is difficult.

Clarification was sought concerning participation by Canadian libraries. As long as the MVS Project is funded only by the Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission, the funds cannot be awarded to Canadian libraries. Canadian libraries can participate in other NCC activities, however, where funding is joint with The Japan Foundation.

A question was raised about buying materials on Japan, particularly on Japanese colonial activities in East Asian) written in Chinese or Korean. It was suggested that NCC contact the Committee on Korean materials for possible funding from the Korean Foundation to support such a project.

Information about the MVS Project is posted on the UCB Web page.

12. Japan Foundation Library Advisory Subcommittee Report

This Subcommittee met at the Hotel Durant on Jan. 9 just prior to the NCC meeting. H. Springer reported that the Subcommittee had faxed its recommendations to The Japan Foundation to meet its January 10 deadline. There was some discussion about whether or not there was a need to continue providing English language books on Japan, but members of the Subcommittee felt it was very useful for institutions with limited programs and limited resources. Of the 55 applications reviewed this year, 33 institutions requested English language books on Japan while 12 institutions/consortia request Japanese language materials. It was again pointed out that exchanging yen for dollars to purchase English language books in the U.S. resulted in some loss of value; perhaps the JUSFC and The Japan Foundation could develop mutually beneficial arrangements for use of their currencies.

13. AAU/ARL Japan Journal Access Project

D. Gregor, Coordinator of the Project summarized the elements of a comprehensive effort to improve U.S. access to Japanese journal articles. The NCC Serials Subcommittee had developed the draft workplan for AAU/ARL. Dr. Inoue mentioned CRL's request for copies of engineering journals from Japan, which he had referred to Dr. Negishi. It was suggested that the JICST-NTIS arrangement might provide a model for a payment mechanism.

Elements of the Project include 1) improving access to Japanese journals available in North American through a. updating the *Union List of Current Japanese Serials*, b. collaborative collection development efforts, c. collecting and publicizing sources of Japanese journal articles, d. retrospective conversion of current and ceased serials; and 2) improving access to Japanese journals in Japan by a. training North American users to search NACSIS files, especially the *Zasshi Kiji Sakuin*, b. including electronic journals from Japan in the *Union List*, and c. cooperating with Japanese libraries to improve reciprocal ILL and document delivery.

14. Librarian Training Programs

- a. Japan Foundation program in Tokyo

The Japan Foundation, in partnership with the National Diet Library and with assistance from NACSIS and I-House of Japan, is sponsoring a three week training program for senior overseas Japanese Studies librarians beginning Feb. 16 in Tokyo. The NCC assisted in the selection of two librarians from Japan, Robert Britt (U. Washington-Law) and Yasuko Makino (Columbia). There were many applicants interested in the program, and it is hoped that a successful program might be repeated.

b. CEAL plans

CEAL is tentatively planning to supplement the Japan Foundation program because it is limited to 2 U.S. librarians, and the likelihood is that U.S. librarians will not be included in future training. Also, CEAL programs need to include Canadian librarians. After the JF training is completed, CEAL will develop a proposal for funding agencies.

c. NCC grant to CGP--D. Gregor

The NCC has submitted to the Center for Global Partnership a grant application to support the training of 5 librarians at NACSIS with follow-up workshops for librarians and end users. An announcement about the grant is expected around April 1.

15. Library of Congress/Japan Documentation Center Report

I. Morita reported that LC is developing a RFC for a new automated system. A CJK capability is not a "make or break" for system choice, but the expectation is that the capability will be part of later development if not available initially. OCLC has a cataloging contract to do brief serial records from the backlog. The Japanese Section and JDC move to the Jefferson Building will probably take place in April. LC is exploring subscribing to e-journals, and I. Morita is part of the selection group working on guidelines. LC's homepage is up and under development; JDC will be part of the LC homepage.

16. Librarian Education--K. Kahler, D. Gregor

P. Steinhoff provided a focused discussion on the problem of recruitment into the field of Japanese studies librarianship and suggested a program like the JUSFC program to attract Japanese studies graduates to law and business. The NCC will look into developing a fellowship program which includes support for attending library school plus a paid internship in a library for one year following completion of the library degree. Also discussed was offering a paid internship for the summer after graduation from a Japanese studies program in order to attract people into the field.

17. Business Meeting

a. JF honorariums: A. Heinrich brought to the attention of the group that although honorariums are paid to the members of the JF American Advisory Committee for reading the library proposals, the NCC's JF Library Support Advisory Committee members are not paid an honorarium for the same work. The NCC will write a letter to the JF to let them know about the oversight.

b. Several by-laws changes were agreed upon: The term of service of the Chair will be for 3 years and the year preceding as Chair-Elect. We will drop the post-service year, so that the Chair will, in future, serve 4 years rather than 5.

c. Subcommittee decisions: The subcommittees will be encouraged to recommend replacements for their members. It is important to include more members from the

community of Japanese studies librarians to broaden participation. The Recon, Electronic Resources, and Librarian Training subcommittees will be discontinued, and the NCC will try to work through task forces which terminate when the task/project is completed. The terms of NEAC and CEAL members on subcommittees will start with September in order to avoid summer subcommittee appointments.

19. Dates for next meeting

September 12-13 in Philadelphia