

**Minutes for the Meeting of the  
North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources  
New York City  
January 10-11, 2003**

**Friday, January 10: Morning Session (9:00 to noon) at the Social Science Research Council**

Members Present: Sachie Noguchi, Chair, Toshie Marra Chair-Elect, Victoria Bestor, Executive Director; Robert Britt, John Campbell, Sally Hastings, James Huffman, Mary E. Jackson, Naomi Kotake, Akira Miyazawa, Kuniko Yamada McVey and Yoko Akiba for LC. Absent: Tomoko Goto, Yasuko Makino, and David McCann. Dan Hazen was an observer and discussant on the Global Resource Program on Friday morning.

Sachie Noguchi, NCC Chair, welcomed the Council including Toshie Marra, new chair-elect and Tomoko Goto, a new member, who was unable to attend due to illness. She also welcomed Dan Hazen of Harvard University who is currently serving as the ARL's program officer overseeing the review of the Global Resources Program (GRP) in which the NCC collaborates.

The Minutes of the September 2002 NCC Council Meeting were approved as revised.

**Reports from Representatives of Funding and Collaborative Organizations:**

The meeting began with the AAU/ARL/NCC Japan Journal Access Project to allow plenty of time for a lengthy discussion of the current review of the AAU/ARL Global Resources Program (GRP) as it relates to the Japan project. Mary Jackson provided several written reports and co-chaired a discussion of the GRP review process with Dan Hazen of Harvard University who is the ARL Visiting Program Officer for the Global Resources Program.

Dan began with a background review of the GRP. GRP began with three pilots on Japan, Germany, and Latin America that ran between 1992 and 1995. The initial activity of the Japan Project focused on scientific and technical materials. In 1995 GRP received funding from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and Deborah Jakubs of Duke became the part-time director of the GRP Program. Currently GRP include projects focused on German, Latin America, South Asia, Southeast Asia, Africa, and Japan. Now that Mellon funding has ended ARL has undertaken a review of all GRP projects and has asked each project to present a business plan outlining initiatives for the next 3-5 years.

Dan provided some details on several of the most successful projects of other world areas. He noted that some of these projects have become independent. The Africa and South Asia projects are now associated with the Center for Research Libraries (CRL). The South Asia project for example includes digitized dictionaries and maps to expand the resources for South Asia scholars everywhere and has been funded by the US government through the TICFIA grants program. TICFIA stands for "Technological Innovation and Cooperation Foreign Information Access" and are associated with Title VI programs. The South Asia project has gotten a couple TICFIA grants totaling several million dollars and established an independent corporation affiliated with CRL. For all intents and purposes the South Asia Project has grown up and is independent of ARL and the Global Resources Program. The SE Asia project, as another example, has very limited money and is working on indexes for the Thai language using Thai script posting their materials on the web. The project also has another indexing project digitizing materials that go back to the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

One initiative of the Latin Americanist project that might be of interest to the NCC involves partnerships with institutions in Latin America using the Open Archives Initiative Metadata Harvesting Protocol to harvest metadata about web-based electronic publications of Latin American non-governmental organizations. There are numerous small political groups, health organizations, and human rights groups in Latin America that are putting information on their web sites. It hangs around out there for a while and then it disappears and is gone. This project looks at how libraries are going to maintain access to this kind of scholarship. Initially the project is partnering with Guatemalan and Chilean organizations using TICFIA money to harvest these sites and to provide enduring access to these materials.

All these activities raise the question of what is ARL's or the Global Resources Program's role in any of these projects. Under the Mellon grant ARL did have some limited resources for the GRP to hold meetings to map out the projects and to provide very limited seed money to get projects going. With the end of that grant, ARL no longer has money for the program or the projects. Many projects are finding or have found their own identity apart from ARL and are finding independent sources of funding that have nothing to do with ARL. Other projects were self-financed from the start.

The Latin Americanist project for example charged a one time fee of \$3,000 per institution that was matched by the Mellon Foundation. The efforts to digitize the Latin American presidential messages was funded by Mellon but only on the condition that the project came up with money to fund other initiatives. The Latin Americanist project has had a couple of the TICFIA grants and some other limited funds from the Mellon Foundation, and it is now on the verge of cutting loose from ARL. The project still relies on ARL for a little bit of logistical support and meetings are still organized by ARL, but otherwise the Latin Americanist project is independent.

In other cases ARL provided initial seed money to get projects moving, but thereafter projects have needed to come up with other moneys. The South Asia project is ranking in money from all sorts of agencies. The German project has gotten enough money for its initial sets of activities, but is seeking additional funding to expand its activities. Dan suggested that the German project may be similar to the Japan project in that there are a number of German foundations that have an interest in seeing this kind of project move forward and he thought parallels might exist for Japan.

In addition to seeding new projects, one of the big issues that ARL is facing is thinking about projects for areas as yet uncovered. For example there is no Middle East project and there is a lot of concern about learning more about the region. There is also the idea of establishing projects that cut transversally across all world areas possibly looking at health issues or human rights or some sort of business issues that would address professional school constituencies as opposed to the basic area studies constituency.

Overall, there is a great emphasis on seeing that projects respond to concrete scholarly and student needs; that scholars and the academic community are going to see some tangible benefit that they will find valuable and will use.

As projects mature, the Global Resources Program sees its role as nurturing new projects rather than maintaining long term involvements with current projects that are well established. So what happens when a project matures? GRP is interested in trying to set up an operational home base for such projects. Many will be able to establish their own autonomous identity and sustain themselves alone. But for some there are no places where a project can go. For these ARL is particularly exploring possibilities with CRL, and to determine whether there are some kinds of institutions that constitute natural landing places for such projects once they mature.

There was a question about the Library of Congress's role in the various projects. Dan said that LC has participated as anyone else would. They have supplied materials for example for the Latin

American Presidential digitizing project and paid the \$3,000 fee to participate. They have been participating in pretty much all of the components of the Latin Americanist project. The LA project is one of few that have North American participants that are not members of ARL. However all GRP projects are open to memberships as institutions want to participate. There is also a senior LC staff member, Carolyn Brown, on the GRP Advisory Committee. She is very enthusiastic about the whole program. Dan concluded by saying that one would hope that the Library of Congress is participating on all the projects.

Mary then provided an overview of the history of the Japan Project in the context of the GRP. In the initial AAU/ARL (1994) report there was a focus on what is not being collection by North American libraries, and Japanese scientific journals was one of the categories identified as something that should be brought more into our collections. The initial coordinators of the Japan Project were a group of people who had very strong interests in scientific materials, including the then-president of CRL. For a set of complicated political reasons, those individuals left the project, and Dorothy Gregor, who had recently retired as University Librarian at UC Berkeley assumed responsibility for the Japan Project. At that time (and even before) Dorothy had begun discussions about improving document delivery with Japanese colleagues. Since not much progress had been made on efforts to bring scientific materials directly into North American collections it was decided that it might be better to find libraries in Japan with scientific holding and try to borrow those materials through interlibrary loan, and so the focus of the Japan Project shifted largely to ILL/DD. When Dorothy retired in 1998 Mary Jackson herself was pulled into Dorothy's role because of Mary's ILL/DD background. So she began working on those aspects of the Japan and Germany projects and to a lesser extent on the Latin American project. And for a different set of reasons for one year Mary was also NCC director. However when it became clear that it was too heavy a burden to do both, Mary relinquished the NCC directorship but continued to oversee the Japan Project.

During Dorothy's tenure the Union List of Japanese Serials and Newspapers Project coordinated by Maureen Donovan at Ohio State University (OSU) was also pulled under the umbrella of the Japan Project. Originally the Union List was seen as providing great potential for developing the capacity for cooperative collection development among US libraries by providing a union catalog of current serial holdings. The aim was to prevent excessive duplications of holdings which could be shared via ILL. Since its start the union list has seen great expansion, including the addition of newspaper holdings, but the project is now in a dormant phase. The project initially adopted a model of having libraries send records to OSU for processing. For one thing, not all the key libraries were sending their holdings. Also it was a great deal of work for those at Ohio State. They also had server and staffing problems and in the end the union list was not sustainable or scalable. So the original ambition to make it possible for any scholar to access a national list of holdings was only partly realized. The union list has been on hold since 2000. One of the questions was how could CRL help? Could the Union List be moved to CRL to sit side by side with the African list? But CRL does not seem to be receptive to that idea. There are also questions about the audience and the amount of time and money it would take to complete the union list. Some ask would it not be better for the holdings to be in the bibliographic utilities so they would be more accessible to ILL staff for searching. Others argue that OCLC and RLIN are not available to independent scholars. There remains the question of who is the prime audience for the Union List? The system still resides on a server at Ohio State where it is available to those who need it, but there are no current plans to further develop the system such as it is. However if demand remains alternate strategies may be pursued.

The Japan Project also contains three ILL/DD initiatives. The first with Waseda University uses the OCLC system. It includes books and photocopies and from an ILL perspective it works like normal interlibrary loan. The fact that the library is half way around the world is irrelevant because the process work quickly. Demand began slowly and has continued to grow at a steady and sustained level appropriate to the languages involved, and essentially the Waseda initiative is now a fully functioning independent effort that no longer needs support from the Japan Project.

The second effort was an 18 month-long pilot project undertaken with the Association of National University Libraries (ANUL) in Japan. It involved a small group of libraries on both sides, about ten, exchanging email requests for photocopying of articles. It was successful because it proved that there was willingness to share but it was complicated from the North American perspective because the systems were different and therefore the requests sent by North American libraries were only 1/10 the number sent from Japan to North American libraries. The pilot did show that there was potential and proved the feasibility of operating a system of ILL/DD using different systems on both sides.

The Global ILL Framework (GIF) was established in April 2002 and grew from the ANUL pilot. GIF links the NACSIS ILL system and the OCLC ILL system using an international ILL communication standard. GIF also uses OCLC's ILL Fee Management system (IFM). The current project is limited to non-returns and a test of the system using returnables will soon be undertaken. The project is now open to any Japanese or North American (OCLC) library that wishes to participate, there are currently over 60 Japanese institutions and over 40 North American institutions involved, several of which are not ARL institutions. GIF makes ordering from Japanese libraries a mainstream activity of ILL.

Then Mary shifted the focus of the discussion to the current GRP review and the future of the Japan Project. Project coordinators have been asked to step back and assess what their projects have done and ask where they need to be going from here. She asked the group to think about what has been done by the Japan Project and ask whether the continuation of those efforts requires the ARL GRP project framework. Mary asked what would be the negative consequence if the Japan Project continues but there is no continued focus within the Global Resources Program on Japan. Would it give less leverage within the library administration for funding of retrospective conversion; would it give the scholars less visibility to try to improve the journals in a given collection; what would be the worst case scenario if it doesn't continue in some form? She also raised the rhetorical question of whether the DD projects should continue within the framework of the Japan Project. What other activities should be done? Where do we see the Japan project in 3-5 years? And finally Mary raised the question of whether she should continue to manage the project or whether NCC should do so.

When asked when any decision had to be made about future GRP projects Dan responded that there will be many meetings of the GRP Advisory Committee and no final decisions are expected to be made anytime soon. There is an inaugural meeting of the new Advisory Committee in February. But there needn't be any moment when any final decisions need to be made on anything. He said here is a lot of room for flexibility. Apart from the internal project dynamics, projects need to generate ideas and think about the process of becoming global. He expressed the hope for seeing projects that offered some sort of cross fertilization, projects that would be channeled through GRP and the knowledge would be shared. These would be projects that the GRP has not attempted to do so far. He also asked if ARL and AAU add additional clout to projects that might facilitate moving them forward at a given institution.

John pointed out that anything that we do in North America has the prospect for being reproduced elsewhere in the world and that one of the benefits of anything that might be undertaken by the Japan Project might be its duplication by Japan collections in Europe, Asia, or Australia.

Sally commented on the desire of college presidents to increase the reputation of their institutions and that having a strong library was one way to do that. She asked if there were any efforts to get the top levels of administration more invested in library efforts. Dan said that in fact the GRP was attempting to involve more people at that level.

A discussion followed on possible Japan project initiatives that would be appropriate for the Global Resources Program. The idea of an internet archive was proposed. Sally Hastings noted the

importance of paying attention to the differing needs of the sciences versus the humanities and social sciences. Jim Huffman expressed the need for such a project to help independent scholars and those at small institutions as AskeASL does. Sally Hastings mentioned the need for gaining access to "oddball journals" and other small publications that may not be available via Zassaku. John Campbell mentioned web sites of NGOs and other grass roots organizations and the need for providing an archive.

Dan Hazen discussed various motivations from the GRP side that would mediate for their continued support. Are there advantages in having similar projects grouped, are there synergies or combinations? From GRP's point, from the scholarly world's standpoint, and from the projects' standpoint, are there advantages in terms of information and ideas, or in terms of tangible resources. Those might be either money that GRP might somehow raise or the kind of clout that GRP can use to leverage money out of foundations or government agencies. Or for example, in the case of TICFIA grants and other government sources, does having ARL and AAU as an advocate help? And with the current government reauthorization of Title 6, does ARL and AAU in some small way help reshape, continue, or enlarge the TICFIA program? Could AAU and ARL conceivably play a similar role with other funding agencies, if it has some specific activities that it can point to?

Sally asked for clarification as to whether she correctly understood that the Waseda and the ANUL projects would continue in any event. Sachie noted that the Waseda project is already operating on its own but made the point that the GIF project is still getting established and they need some help and support in the final stages. Such support will be particularly helpful in their negotiations with various Japanese government agencies and financial interests.

Dan then referred to how ARL's relationship with GRP projects may change in the future. The Global Resources Program has played an array of roles in nurturing and launching projects. Once a project eventually matures, the assumption is that GRP's infusion of resources is no longer necessary. That is a separate issue from whether GRP has any parentage or semantic kind of claim on a project. It is the question of whether the GRP considers a given project among the array of activities it draws upon and works with in the general cause of international library materials and information resources. In that sense a project can be affiliated with the GRP without having any direct administrative contact with ARL. When a meeting of international projects is called to assess what is needed, that project would be in the family, in the fold of institutions that are considered part of the GRP, and that project would be invited to attend the meeting at their own expense.

Specifically with regard to the evolution of the Japan project, Mary noted that the ILL/DD area seems to be worked out. However she added there are still some areas, payment issues, or possibly others for which her expertise may still be needed. But by in large the ILL/DD efforts have moved from something that was shaky, to something that is working for a larger and larger group of institutions. There is the continuing issue of the union list and expanding the indexing for Japanese serials.

Mary also noted that from the project's standpoint there may be some advantage to keeping some sort of affiliation with AAU and ARL as the Japan project undertakes new activities. At this point in time, from GRP perspective, there is no reason to cut off the connection with GRP as long as there is an understanding that there may not be GRP money associated with it. But the other kinds of tangible and intangible moral support would be present. GRP may help a project under its umbrella to justify itself and to increase its stature vis-à-vis the library director and the university president. It is important to emphasize what a project has done for scholars in the field, to be able to say where it's going and to point to what it will mean for scholars, so that a project can present a specific concrete notion accomplishment and potential. That is what Mary thinks GRP would like to see. That is part of the request in the questions that Mary raised. In any event, GRP doesn't want to force projects to be forever associated with it. After a project has gone along there is a time to take a look and ask if there is a useful purpose in continuing this alliance, if there is great, ok.

Jim Huffman proposed that the NCC form a small ad hoc committee to decide whether we are ready to suggest some other new initiative to be part of the Japan Project, for example the harvesting of table of contents. John added that he had not thought about a committee but that he believed that it would be helpful to the Japan field to work on something of a cutting edge nature to benefit the field. He noted that archiving of internet materials was a useful goal. The question was not whether there was the harvesting technology but rather how to go about the cataloging and indexing needed to make the information useful. He added that the fact that the GRP Latin Americanist project is already doing something of that nature might provide ideas for how to proceed on a Japan initiative. He noted that such a project would be very meaningful for social scientists who deal with Japan. Among the most interesting topics that many people are writing about is NGOs and other types of grass roots activities. In Japan, as here, most of the NGO activity is done on the web. Getting printed material is a) difficult, and b) represents only a small sub-section of the material available on the web. If one person is looking at a particular group they can follow the sites, bookmark them, etc. But it's an enormous job for libraries to try to track things systematically. Sally said that Jim and John were more or less seconding the ideas she had. She added that for anything a Japan Project might suggest it was necessary to have the technical expertise of GRP.

Dan said that in fact it is inaccurate to think of ARL as having a stable of technical experts. Mary is unusual at ARL for being an ILL expert. He said, the thing you need to do is to involve Karl Lo or similar experts who have the kinds of technical experience the project needs. What GRP does is to help the projects get a sense of what the research library directors are thinking about and maybe the Washington perspective. ARL is very well positioned to be useful on that. And also to share information about what some of these projects in other world areas are all about. GRP is in a unique place and that is a function it can perform.

Mary agreed that once she is no longer manager of the Japan Project she will continue to be ARL's representative to the NCC and will remain available to the NCC and the Japan Project as a consultant. The discussion of ARL and the GRP was suspended while Mary Jackson was out of the room on a conference call.

**Before lunch, Mr. Hirano gave the Japan Foundation report.** He noted that as part of the restructuring of the Japanese government, the Japan Foundation will become an independent administrative agency (dokuritsu gyosei hojin) as of October 2003. Currently a restructuring of the foundation's organizational chart is taking place which will result in 3 or 4 groups, the exact format and content of which is not fully clear. Except for the language education and the arts programs Mr. Hirano expects that restructuring will be regional, but not as small as at the single country level, so there might be a Western Hemisphere center or an Asia center. For FY 03 he expects there will be no major changes in the Foundation's programs. He does not expect that the integration of the new organization will take place until FY 04. The foundation is also being required to create mid-term and long-term plans for evaluating the success of future projects.

The Japan Foundation budget has again decreased 3% overall, the payout of the endowment is down by about 25% and since the interest rate is not going up near term improvement is not expected. No improvement in the fiscal situation of the foundation is expected for about 5 years, it is hoped that things will bottom out by FY 06 or 07.

Mr. Hirano noted that the Japan Foundation-NDL program will continue. The December 2002 program was very successful. He hopes the program will continue but it may decrease in either the size of the program or its duration.

Professor Huffman will report on the library support program. He also said that the budget for library applications is largely stable. And the JF will have a reception at the AAS.

In the course of questions and answers Mr. Hirano noted that to date they have not been allowed to buy US bonds and that is expected to change with the new reorganization. He also noted that the nature of the money they receive from the government will be changing. The funding will change from *hojokin* to *kofukukin*. With the former any surplus must be returned each year where as in the latter case funds may be kept and rolled over into the next year's budget. It is still unclear about how much more flexibility this will allow.

#### **Friday, January 10th, afternoon session (1:30 to 5:00)**

After lunch the discussion of the GRP's review process and of the future management of the Japan Project continued, and it was agreed that management of the project should be transferred to the NCC. Since the NCC has agreed to assume management of the Japan Project the report to GRP will be drafted jointly by Mary, Sachie, and Vickey. Mary also reviewed the GRP's needs for NCC to assume the management of the Japan project. The NCC will be responsible for preparing budgets, writing a business plan, conducting fund raising for any new projects undertaken. In addition there will be a need to provide text material for ARL newsletters and other documents as requested. The NCC will also need to keep records of the projects, answer questions, register new participants, do long term planning, coordinate and host any needed meetings and maintain the web site which will be transferred to the NCC's site as soon as the migration from Pittsburgh to its new location, possibly at Harvard takes place.

To give advice on new directions a Japan Project Advisory Committee (JPAC) was formed co-chaired by John Campbell and Toshie Marra, Sally Hastings agreed to serve and Susan Napier, Karl Lo, and Tokiko Bazzell were suggested as members, all subsequently agreed to serve. Based on the earlier discussion it was agreed that the committee will investigate the demand for new projects. Initial discussions focused on something of an internet archival nature that would fit with the GRP's new focus. The committee will report back to the NCC on the progress of their discussions at the next meeting in September 2003.

**JUSFC Report:** In Margaret Mihori's absence a written report was submitted on behalf of the Japan US Friendship Commission. The report noted that 2002 was a year of transition for the Commission. Eric Gangloff's report stated, "In 2001 fifteen of the eighteen members of the board changed, and the chief task for last year was a review of JUSFC programs and priorities. At the September, 2002 business meeting the board concluded that review and issued a fresh set of programs and priorities. Those new guidelines were distributed and are available on the Commission's web site at [www.jusfc.gov](http://www.jusfc.gov). Chief among the changes was elimination of support for Policy Research and Infrastructure Building as separate categories. The JUSFC has not eliminated support for these fields per se; rather, it has incorporated support for these activities under its programs for Japanese Studies and the Study of the United States, as a way to emphasize its highest priority: **the development and maintenance of area studies expertise on the societies, political economies and cultures of the United States and Japan and on the bilateral relationship.** Needless to say the NCC's activities continue to promote and reflect this priority. "

"Last year also saw major changes in the environment in which the JUSFC works. A growing number of organizations and institutions established in the late 1980s and the early 1990s to deal with the demand for information across the United States about the then emerging Japanese direct investment and growing trade ties cut back activities and in some cases closed – due to the increasingly severe financial constraints on resources for the field. The JUSFC has received numerous calls from such organizations seeking assistance and advice. Clearly, we are on the cusp of major change in the shape of cultural and educational relations between the United States and Japan. We can only wait to see the form it will ultimately take, and in the meanwhile work to help

maintain the best of those activities, organizations and institutions that currently structure the field and help build new structures where possible.”

Yoko Akiba offered a report on behalf of the **Library of Congress**. She noted that the search for the new chief of the Asian Division continues. She also reported on the collaborative project with Nichibunken and the first ever collaboration of three divisions of the Library. It is hoped that the new chief will be on board and attend the next NCC Meeting in September.

## **Saturday, January 11, 2003, Meeting at the Nippon Club**

### **Morning Session (9:00 to 1:00)**

**The Japan Foundation AAC** (American Advisory Committee) report was given by James Huffman. He reported that three library-related items merit reporting from the Japan Foundation.

The Japan Foundation has made several changes in the guidelines for library applications, in line with recommendations from the NCC's Library Support Committee last January. They include the following: "The Library Support Program application has been changed to guide applicants toward formulating a more focused proposal. In addition to providing a brief synopsis of their proposals, applicants are specifically asked to explain the ties between the selected materials and the curriculum, demonstrate consultation between the library and faculty, and describe why the requested titles are needed in their geographic location." In addition, successful applicants to Category A2 will now be allowed to spend up to half of their grant on titles that are not on the Foundation's Book List.

There were 33 applications this year, an increase of three from last year. These include: A1 2 applications; A2 12 applications; B1 13 applications; B2 6 applications. The increases were in A2 (an increase of 3, or 33 percent) and B1 (an increase of 2). A1 and B2 each dropped by 1. Last year, the Foundation only was able to fund 8 proposals; with funds being cut this year, the percentage of applicants receiving grants is likely to be smaller yet—despite the fact that proposals have been very strong for the last several years. This trend must be a matter of concern for both the NCC and the AAC. It is worth noting too that this year's applicants include considerably more liberal arts colleges (7 in the A categories, 1 in the B categories) than last year.

Jim concluded by announcing that Kristina Troost, head international studies librarian at Duke University and former NCC chair, has joined the American Advisory Committee of the Japan Foundation.

**The Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL)** report was given by new Committee on Japanese Materials (CJM) Chair Kuniko Yamada McVey whose committee includes: Keiko Higuchi, Hitoshi Kamada, Alban Kojima, Toshie Marra, and Kenji Niki.

She reported that the CJM website went live in October 2002 at <http://www.library.arizona.edu/users/hkamada/CJM/cjmhome.html>. Contents include CJM activities, a directory of CJM members, workshop materials/documents, and access to archived minutes of annual meetings (2000-2002) and CJM annual reports (1999-2001), provided by former chair Hideyuki Morimoto. In addition to program information on the 2003 CJM session at AAS, minutes and reports will also be posted promptly on the site. CJM member Hitoshi Kamada created the site, and is playing a central role to maintain and develop the web site.

The CJM subcommittee for Japanese rare book cataloging guidelines (Toshie Marra-chair, Hideyuki Morimoto, and Reiko Yoshimura) continued its work in fall 2002, when it undertook a rare book survey among CEAL libraries and selected museums in North America. Results are to be compiled

into a directory which should be available sometime in 2003. The subcommittee has also been communicating with Prof. Jun Suzuki of the National Institute of Japanese Literature in Japan to plan a workshop on Japanese rare books for Japanese studies librarians in North America to be held at the Institute at a date to be determined.

CJM's annual session will be held on Thursday, 27 March 2003, between 10:40am and 12:30 pm, in New York City. A lively e-mail discussion about programming continued throughout the fall and the final agenda will be determined shortly.

She also reported that the CEAL Committee on Technical Processing is planning to hold a workshop on cataloging of Buddhist titles on 24 and 25 March 2003 at Butler Library of Columbia University, followed by the CEAL annual meeting. It will be two full-days of highly interactive lecture/exercises conducted by Mr. Kio Kanda of the Library of Congress, with approximately 30 CEAL members having prior cataloging experience in Buddhist titles.

And finally, as new CJM Chair Kuniko spoke about the importance of Cooperation/Coordination with the NCC. She particularly noted her recent experience working closely with NCC Chair Sachie Noguchi and the Executive Director Victoria Bestor during the junior librarians workshop held in Cambridge last summer which was a great opportunity for her to confirm the shared goals and mutual respect of our two organizations. She concluded by saying, "I sincerely hope to foster the constructive relationship between NCC and CEAL/CJM" in the future.

**The Japan Liaison Report** was given by Akira Miyazawa. He reported first on the usage of NACSIS-ILL/OCLC link. To date the ILL link has not been used very heavily but steadily. He presented a number of tables showing the number of requests, those unfilled, and the requests cancelled, the complete charts will be available on the NCC's web site.

He also provided the list of the newly released organizational chart of the National Diet Library (NDL) in English, which can be found on the NCC's web site (after its re-design has been completed).

And finally Mr. Miyazawa discussed the ongoing debate between writers and libraries. He noted that in the summer of 2001, some Japanese writers began to claim that public libraries and "new second-hand book stores" (*shin koshoten* ••••) were infringing on the copyright of writers by lending best-sellers in large numbers or by selling new books at unreasonably low prices. Libraries refute the writers' claim with the fact that estimated loss to writers is low, and citizens' requirement is so high. The debate is still going on in magazines (such as *Bungei Shunju* and *Ronza*). In September 2002, a symposium on this issue was held by *Nihon Pen Kurabu*. Some of the writers argue for the introduction of public lending rights. The future prospect of this issue is unclear, but in any case, copyright issues in Japanese libraries are expected to attract increasing attention.

Due to the illness of **Canadian Advisory Group** Chair Tomoko Goto a written report was submitted. Her report noted that the second meeting of the Japan-Related Librarians' Meeting had been held on June 23, 2001 and the third meeting will be held on February 8, 2003 at the Japan Foundation in Toronto. Ms. Mariko Liliefeldt of the Japan Foundation Toronto has organized the meeting which will include the following reports: Report on the Junior Librarian Training Program by Tadanobu Suzuki (University of Victoria); the Japan Foundation-National Diet Library Training Program by Tomoko Goto ('University of British Columbia); the National Diet Library's International Service by Yuko Nagano (Librarian from the NDL at the University of Montreal); a report on the NII's trial database service by Chiaki Sakai & Yasuko Enosawa. As of August 2002, there were eighteen members in the Canadian Advisory Group including three library school students, Tomoko as chair maintains the listserv of the members.

Her report also noted that the maximum Japan Foundation Library Support Award for Canadian libraries will be •500,000 per institution this year.

In the absence of David McCann the **Northeast Asia Council (NEAC) of the AAS** representative a brief report was submitted from NEAC Chair Linda Lewis. Aware of the NCC's efforts at User Training and past NEAC discussions on the subject, she encouraged the NCC to continue dialogue with NEAC as follow up on their responses to the NCC's questions about how librarians can better provide instruction in new electronic resources.

NEAC also made a grant of \$2,500 to the NCC to support the Junior Librarian Training Program on which the NCC will report to NEAC at the end of the grant year.

#### **NCC Administrative Updates:**

**NCC Public Information Efforts:** Sachie Noguchi reported on efforts to work with the Pittsburgh library web master in mounting NCC materials and noted the frustrations of trying to squeeze time from his other library obligations for him to mount NCC materials. A discussion of the future home for the **NCC Web site** was held and it was agreed that following Sachie's term the site will become the responsibility of the NCC Executive Director. Vickey Bestor reported that she will investigate both private web hosting firms and speak with Andy Gordon Director of the Reischauer Institute at Harvard about their possibly hosting the NCC site.

Vickey Bestor handed out copies of the newest issue of the **NCC Newsletter** which had just been published and discussed plans for greater use of electronic versions of the newsletter once the NCC Web Site has migrated to its new home later in 2003.

NCC Chair Sachie Noguchi discussed plans for the **2003 NCC Annual Open Meeting** which will take place in the Trustee's Room of the New York Public Library. A tour of the library's collection as well as a presentation on its Spencer Collection will be included. In addition to regular NCC meeting business, the NCC's Digital Resources Committee will hold an information exchange on issues related to negotiating licenses with vendors.

NCC Executive Director Vickey Bestor offered a brief report on NCC administration at mid-year, and in response to Naomi Kotake's query Vickey noted that the year-end report will include greater detail and will be given at the September Meeting.

#### **NCC Committee Updates:**

**The Multi-Volume Sets (MVS) Project** in the absence of outgoing Co-Chair Yasuko Makino NCC Executive Director Vickey Bestor reported on MVS. For the current year a new prescreening process has been introduced which allows institutions to propose titles that will be doubly screened by the MVS Committee to determine the existence of uncataloged duplicates. The new system will streamline the application process and eliminate the problems of having institutions complete the lengthy application process only to learn in the final round that uncataloged duplicates exist which prohibit funding of the sets they have proposed.

The MVS Handbook was reviewed and it was suggested that it be updated to include sample letters for the co-chair to send to grantees and to those whose applications are not funded. Vickey was asked to create a template of committee member addresses for the faculty co-chair to use in mailing application sets.

A report on the **Junior Librarian Training Program** was given by Seminar Co-Chairs Sachie Noguchi and Kuniko McVey, and Seminar Coordinator Vickey Bestor. The Seminar was deemed an

extraordinary success having trained 19 junior librarians from the US, Canada and Germany. To offer the seminar 19 leading librarians from the US and Japan took part. Instructors also produced an extensive workbook which is being revised for future electronic publication on the NCC Web Site.

The report on **Digital Information Resources Committee** was given by Co-Chair Rob Britt supplemented by Co-Chair Ellen Hammond's written report. Ellen's report provided updates on talks with Nichigai Associates regarding further improvements in the North American English language license for Nichigai's digital resources. She also reported on her visit to Nikkei America in New York in December, 2002 to follow up on discussions she had with Nikkei representatives in Boston in August. The DRC would like to make Nikkei's database, Telecom 21, more accessible to North American users by pressing for several changes. Some things we consider desirable are:

1. access by IP address (instead of control by user id and password)
2. flat rate pricing (as opposed to charge for each headline and story viewed)
3. proxy access
4. content that includes the greatest depth possible chronologically and emphasis on newspaper files

Co-chair Rob Britt has completed a prototype of a DRC home page which can be viewed at <http://staff.washington.edu/rbritt/NCCDigitalInfoComm/index.htm>. The final format of the site will be discussed during the next few weeks. In addition to an introduction to the DRC and its current projects, the site will feature a form to be used by Japanese studies librarians to submit their problems, comments, and issues with Japanese digital resources.

Ellen's report also detailed a meeting with Ms. Midori Ichiko of Keio University and the DRC's hope to work more closely with librarians in Japan in order to jointly address issues with Japanese language digital resources.

A written report on the **User Training Task Force** by Kris Troost was presented and a brief discussion was held. The report noted that during 2002 one major model of a possible User Training format was tested at the May 2002 meeting of the Japan Anthropology Workshop (JAWS) at Yale University. Offering training in disciplinarily specialized formats such as the JAWS Workshop is one of a number of strategies currently being studied by the User Training Task Force. JAWS provided the venue for testing a workshop geared expressly for anthropologists titled *Library and Archival Resources for Japan Anthropology*.

Other possible formats being tested include Regional AAS Meetings, Regional Seminars in Japanese Studies, and sessions of interest groups taking place at larger disciplinary meetings such as the East Asian Section of the American Anthropological Association or the Japan Art History Forum. During 2003 the UTTF will continue to study user training models and make recommendations to the NCC with an eye to planning a Professional Training Seminar Proposal for the Japan Foundation, probably for implementation during 2004.

During the remainder of 2003 until the Japan Foundation Deadline on November 1st, the UTTF will be working closely with the NCC to develop models for a broad range of User Training seminars in various formats and for different academic audiences and will work with the NCC in efforts to develop a funding proposal for the Japan Foundation. Council members made various suggestions of possible venues including the APSA meetings over Labor Day, the Association of Japanese Literature, and the ASPAC meetings. Sally Hastings also spoke about the experience of her colleagues at Purdue when they invited Sharon Domier to offer a session to them. At Purdue the librarians were involved as co-sponsors and the librarians became very involved and enthusiastic about the training. She encouraged efforts to more greatly involve non-specialist librarians at the hosting institutions.

A brief update on **AsKEASL** was given followed by a discussion about creating an NCC AsKEASL Advisory Committee to work with CEAL's Public Service Committee which is now overseeing AsKEASL on CEAL's behalf. It was agreed that the Committee should be Co-Chaired by Sharon Domier and Tomoko Goto.

Since time was getting short only the briefest discussion of the **Japan Art Catalog Project** was held. A detailed written report from Reiko Yoshimura at the Freer Gallery will be made at the next meeting. Also Sachie Noguchi provided a brief update on the creation of the JAC Western Depository at the University of Pittsburgh.

#### **New Business and New Project Updates:**

John Campbell reported on new initiatives at the University of Michigan about which the NCC should be aware. The Michigan Digital Project under Bruce Willoughby includes the East Asian Digital Library @ Michigan which scans monographs in Western languages that are out of print once rights are given by the publishers. These include works from the Michigan Series, the AAS Back List, and Monumenta Nipponica's old back list. Michigan is also publishing a new Classics series to include such works as Seindensticker's *High City, Low City*, and Morris's *The Nobility of Failure*.

Candidates for the NCC's social science faculty position were discussed. The names mentioned were Susan Long of John Carroll University, Bill Kelly of Yale, Marie Anchordogy of U Washington, Mary Brinton of Harvard, and Moranda Schuers of Maryland. The NCC Nominating Committee was given the task of searching for that position, to fill positions on the MVS Committee, and to provide a list of librarian candidates for future openings to be discussed at the next meeting in September.

The location of the next two NCC Meetings was discussed and it was agreed that the September Meeting will be the 5-6<sup>th</sup> in Seattle and the January 2004 Meeting will be held in Washington DC, perhaps at the Library of Congress if the new Chief of the Asian Division agrees.