

NCC MEETING SEPTEMBER 6-7, 1996

The National Coordinating Committee on Japanese Library Resources held its fall meeting in Philadelphia to review current projects and plan 96/97 activities. The meeting was supported by the Japan-United States Friendship Commission (JUSFC) and The Japan Foundation (JF).

MVS PROJECT

The JUSFC has permitted Yen 238,433 not spent in 95/96 to be carried over and used in the 96/97 Project. Hideyuki Morimoto (UC Berkeley), co-chair with Mariko Tamanoi (UCLA) for 96/97, has prepared the announcement and guidelines for this year's Project. The announcement will appear in all relevant publications and listservs and will also be posted on the Berkeley East Asian Library Web page. This year's MVS Subcommittee has decided that Project scope will again include reprints of ceased serial titles. Sachie Noguchi (Pittsburgh) reported on the NCC MVS Project at the Special Conference on the Evolving Research Library and East Asian Studies, held in Beijing concurrent with the IFLA '96. The Project received international attention as an example of successful coordinated collection development.

JAC PROJECT

There has been substantial progress in both Japan and the U.S. since the last report at the AAS Open meeting in April. ACE/Japan has rented office space on the 3rd floor of the Ark-Mori Building in the Akasaka section of Tokyo to use for the first Art Catalogue Library in Japan. The formal opening of the Library will be on Nov. 7, 1996. Two librarians have begun processing and organizing the collection. The Japan JAC Committee, chaired by Prof. S. Takashima, President of the National Museum of Western Art, has solicited and received art exhibition catalogs from museums throughout Japan. The 1996 budget was Yen 23,750,000 with a little more than 10% provided by JF and the rest raised from private sources by ACE-Japan. The Library will prepare a newsletter of its activities, and Yasuko Matsudo (Michigan), Chair of the JAC Task Force, will contribute an article to the first issue about the American involvement in the project. The Freer Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. depository library for the art exhibition catalog collection, has received the first shipment from Japan. The shipment reflects 176 participating institutions (173 museums and department stores and 3 newspaper companies) contributing 1,125 catalogs (936 exhibition catalogs and 189 catalogs of museum collections). The Freer will catalog the art exhibition catalogs on RLIN using RLIN ID=DCFX and the subject heading, "JAC Project". Interlibrary loan and photo-duplication services will be provided without charges to the user. The NCC discussed the desirability of a U.S. project which would provide copies of catalogs of exhibitions of Japanese art held in the U.S. and agreed that it would be a worthwhile project, complementary to the Japan-based project, and a way of returning some of the effort being made by our Japanese colleagues.

RECON SURVEY

The Recon Survey is querying libraries with 40,000 or more volumes of Japanese language titles as reported in the CEAL statistics. At the time of the meeting only a few interviews remained and, despite the fact that several large collections, e.g., UC Berkeley and Yale, are still not "reconned", progress has been made in converting Japanese titles to machine-readable form for inclusion in the national databases. The Harvard Yen-ching

conversion contract with OCLC is a big step forward. A summary of the Recon Survey will be made available on one of the Japanese studies-related Web pages. It is likely that a future project would target formats, e.g., serials, or limited subject areas, rather than whole collections.

ELECTRONIC RESOURCES

Ellis Krauss (UCSD) reported briefly on the e-mail based survey he and Jeremy Lehrer conducted under a NCC contract arrangement with ACE-Japan on behalf of the JS-Net Study Group. The survey was intended to reach four groups: librarians and scholars (humanists, social scientists, and CULCON members). Because of a low response from the scholars, the three groups were combined into one. One of the findings of the survey was that librarians are much more likely than scholars to use the Internet regularly in their work and to access resources related to Japanese studies.

The survey was useful in confirming what has been learned from other sources: that U.S. users are primarily interested in access to basic bibliographic information and to the text of journals and newspapers, in particular. Also of high interest are statistics of almost any sort. Respondents also indicated an interest in information on the hardware/software needed to access Japanese language resources, concern about the high costs of accessing Japanese databases, and the difficulties of arranging for access to Japanese databases.

JAPAN FOUNDATION LIBRARY SUPPORT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Committee has not yet met, but the group was reminded of its membership: Hisami Konishi-Springer (Hawaii), Chair, Amy Heinrich (Columbia), representative from the American Advisory Committee, Sachie Noguchi, CEAL representative, Y. Matsudo, and Kristina Troost (Duke). Ken Pyle is chairing the Japan Foundation's American Advisory Committee.

SERIALS SUBCOMMITTEE

The Serials Subcommittee is charged with developing the draft workplan for the AAU/ARL Japanese Journals Access Project. NCC reviewed the agenda for the September 18 meeting of the Subcommittee and offered encouragement to move the work forward.

INTERNET/NACSIS TRAINING

The proposed grant to the CGP to support training for librarians, faculty and graduate students in adapting their hardware/software for the search and display of *kanji* databases and in accessing some of the NACSIS-based files was discussed. It is hoped that 4-6 librarians might go to NACSIS for training. In addition to the training of the trainers, the librarians spending time at NACSIS would be able to lay the basis for a long term relationship with NACSIS staff for future cooperative ventures. These trained librarians would then be asked to present 2-3 training sessions in the U.S., at their own institutions and in conjunction with regional AAS meetings. It was pointed out that Title VI centers had outreach responsibilities and so were a possible venue for the seminars. A constraint is the need for training sites to be equipped with 15-20 Internet connected PCs so that attendees would gain hands-on experience with the software.

NEWSPAPERS

There was initial discussion about a project to improve access to Japanese newspapers. Because newspapers are increasingly available electronically on the Internet

from Japan, it was decided that the most useful project would be the development of a finding aid which would include information on both hardcopy and electronic newspapers. The index tool could be made available on the WWW and updated regularly to reflect changes. The NCC will need to obtain funding and to "contract" with a librarian to develop the index.

For further information about the above projects or about the NCC contact Dr. Kari Kahler, Chair (kahler@pobox.upenn.edu) or Dorothy Gregor, Director (dgregor@library.berkeley.edu)

NCC AGENDA
FALL MEETING, SEPT. 6-7, 1996
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
SHERATON HOTEL-UNIVERSITY CITY

Present: K. Brazell, D. Gregor, A. Heinrich, K. Kahler, E. Krauss, Y. Matsudo, T. Miyakawa, I. Morita, H. Springer
Guest: E. Gangloff
Absent: G. Hoetker, S. Noguchi, M. Tamanoi

I. Welcome and Introductions-K. Kahler

II. Review and Planning of Ongoing Projects

A. MVS Project--D. Gregor for S. Noguchi and M. Tamanoi

The awards in the 95/96 Project were reported at the last meeting. It was noted that Yen 238,433 remained in the JPTC account and that the JUSFC has permitted that amount to be carried over and used in the 96/97 Project. H. Morimoto, co-chair with M. Tamanoi for 96/97, has prepared the announcement and guidelines for this year's Project. The announcement will appear in all relevant publications and listservs and will also be posted on the Berkeley East Asian Library Web page. This year's MVS Subcommittee has decided that Project scope will again include reprints of dead serial titles. H. Springer noted that S. Noguchi had reported on the NCC MVS Project on August 28 at the Special Conference on the Evolving Research Library and East Asian Studies, held in Beijing concurrent with the IFLA '96. The Project received international attention as an example of successful coordinated collection development.

B. Report of Japanese liaison--T. Miyakawa

T. Miyakawa prepared an extensive report which is attached, for the record, to these minutes. Additionally the discussion included the following points: An English language draft of the JS-Net report will be distributed soon. Much of the activity described in T. Miyakawa's report coincides with the goals of the CULCON Working Group on Information Access. However, the Working Group also cited a great need for statistical information from Japan. Japanese government agency home pages do not include statistics. Mr. Miyakawa said that MITI and a government planning agency are discussing adding statistics to the data available. E. Krauss noted that the "Washington Strategy Group Report" that was done about the same time as the NCC survey for JS-Net found that researchers are very interested in the use of networks for their work, but they are not well-informed about their use and the resources available. E. Gangloff mentioned that a 1994 conference also pointed to the need for statistics on social issues--labor, health and education, rather than the MITI statistics. He suggested that it would be useful to identify the ministries whose statistics would be most useful for U.S. users. The SSJ (Social Science Japan) Internet site stated at the University of Tokyo in September has a program to collect and disseminate information on labor and industrial relations.

C. JAC Project--Y. Matsudo and T. Miyakawa

There has been substantial progress in both Japan and the U.S. since the last report at the AAS Open meeting in April. As indicated in T. Miyakawa's report, ACE/Japan has

rented office space on the 3rd floor of the Ark-Mori Building in the Akasaka section of Tokyo to use for the first Art Catalogue Library in Japan. The formal opening of the Library will be on Nov. 7, 1996. Two librarians have begun processing and organizing the collection. The Japan JAC Committee, chaired by Prof. S. Takashima, President of the National Museum of Western Art, has solicited and received art exhibition catalogs from museums throughout Japan. The 1996 budget was Yen 23,750,000 with a little more than 10% provided by The Japan Foundation and the rest raised from private sources by ACE-Japan. The Library will prepare a newsletter of its activities, and Y. Matsudo will contribute an article to the first issue about the American involvement in the project..

The Freer Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution, the U.S. depository library for the art exhibition catalog collection, is ready to receive the first shipment which left Japan on July 29 and should arrive in the first part of September. (Post-meeting communications confirms that the first shipments have begun to arrive.) The shipments reflects 176 participating institutions (173 museums and department stores and 3 newspaper companies) contributing 1, 125 catalogs (936 exhibition catalogs and 189 catalogs of museum collections). The Freer will catalog the art exhibition catalogs on RLIN using RLIN ID=DCFX and the subject heading, "JAC Project". Y. Matsudo will ask the Freer to keep statistics on the number of catalogs received through the exchange which were found to be already entered into the OCLC and/or RLIN databases. As agreed by the Freer when it applied to the Project, interlibrary loan and photo-duplication services will be provided without charges to the user. The depository library in Japan will provide parallel bibliographic data on the collection in both JapanMARC and USMARC.

NCC discussed the desirability of a U.S. project which would provide copies of catalogs of exhibitions of Japanese art held in the U.S. and agreed that it would be a worthwhile project, complementary to the Japan-based project, and a way of returning some of the effort being made by our Japanese colleagues. The first task will be to compile a list of institutions likely to hold exhibitions of Japanese art and then solicit their cooperation in providing two copies of catalogs of their exhibitions. The NCC Director will initiate the project, and Y. Matsudo will talk with the Freer staff about communicating with ARLIS about the project.

D. Recon Survey--D. Gregor

The Recon Survey is querying libraries with 40,000 or more volumes of Japanese language titles as reported in the CEAL statistics. D. Gregor contacted the Director of each library and asked to be put in e-mail contact with the person best able to answer questions about the recon of Japanese materials. The contact person was then e-mailed a copy of the questionnaire to review in preparation for a telephone interviews. The interviews were arranged through further e-mail or telephone messages. At the time of the meeting only a few interviews remained and, despite the fact that several large collections, e.g., UC Berkeley and Yale, are still not "reconned", progress has been made in converting Japanese titles to machine-readable form for inclusion in the national databases. The Harvard Yen-ching conversion contract with OCLC is a big step forward. A summary of the Recon Survey will be made available on one of the Japanese studies-related Web pages. It is likely that a future project would target formats, e.g., serials, or limited subject areas, rather than whole collections.

E. Electronic Resources

1. JS-Net Survey summary--E. Krauss

E. Krauss reported briefly on the e-mail based survey he and Jeremy Lehrer conducted under a NCC contract arrangement with ACE-Japan on behalf of the JS-Net Study Group. The survey was intended to reach four groups: librarians and scholars (humanists, social scientists, and CULCON members). Because of a low response from the scholars, the three groups were combined into one. One of the findings of the survey was that librarians are much more likely than scholars to use the Internet regularly in their work and to access resources related to Japanese studies.

The survey was useful in confirming what has been learned from other sources: that U.S. users are primarily interested in access to basic bibliographic information and to the text of journals and newspapers, in particular. Also of high interest are statistics of almost any sort. Respondents also indicated an interest in information on the hardware/software needed to access Japanese language resources, concern about the high costs of accessing Japanese databases, and the difficulties of arranging for access to Japanese databases.

2. NACSIS Electronic Library Service--H. Springer

H. Springer reported briefly on the current developments of the NACSIS Electronic Library Service and distributed handouts provided by Dr. Jun Adachi, Research and Development Dept., NACSIS. The service should be available in April, 1997. The prototype version demonstrated at FID in 1993 provided access to three engineering journals. As of April, 1996, NACSIS-ELS allows access to the journals of 24 Japanese academic societies covering English literature (1), history (1), education (2), psychology (1), science (7), engineering (8), and agriculture (4). Questions about fees and copyright handling remain. Persons wishing to have access to a trial service should send an e-mail request to els@nacsis.ac.jp with "els monitor" in the subject field. for the most recent information on the service: <http://www.nacsis.ac.jp/dl/dl-j.html>

F. Japan Foundation Library Support Advisory Committee--H. Springer

The Committee has not yet met, but the group was reminded of its membership: H. Springer, A. Heinrich (representative from the American Advisory Committee), S. Noguchi (CEAL representative), Y. Matsudo, and Kris Troost. Ken Pyle is chairing the Japan Foundation's American Advisory Committee.

III. New Projects/Business

A. Serials Subcommittee--D. Gregor

The background documents for the September 18 meeting of the Subcommittee were reviewed and the NCC offered encouragement for the work of the Subcommittee.

B. Internet/NACSIS Training-D. Gregor

The NCC's proposed grant to the CGP to support training for librarians, faculty and graduate students in adapting their hardware/software for the search and display of *kanji* databases and in accessing some of the NACSIS-based files was discussed. It is hoped that 4-6 librarians might go to NACSIS for training. In addition to the training of the trainers, the librarians spending time at NACSIS would be able to lay the basis for a long term relationship with NACSIS staff for future cooperative ventures. These trained librarians would then be asked to present 2-3 training sessions in the U.S., at

their own institutions and in conjunction with regional AAS meetings. It was pointed out that Title VI centers had outreach responsibilities and so were a possible venue for the seminars. A constraint is the need for training sites to be equipped with 15-20 Internet connected PCs so that attendees would gain hands-on experience with the software. D. Gregor will write the grant, but needs assistance in developing the budget. K. Kahler and A. Heinrich will meet with CGP Director Junichi Chano in New York to discuss the possibilities of receiving an award.

C. ILL Seminars in Japan--D. Gregor

D. Gregor reported on conversations with Yuki Nagano, Director of Libraries at International Christian University, about the possibility of the Association of Research Libraries presenting one or two seminars in Tokyo on the North American Interlibrary Loan/Document Delivery Project. The concept was to share with Japan library colleagues some of the work undertaken in the U.S. to improve ILL. In discussing the idea with librarians in Japan, there was enthusiasm for the concept. However, a NACSIS staff member indicated to Ms. Nagano that NACSIS was responsible for interactions with foreign librarians about interlibrary loan matters and so discouraged Ms. Nagano from pursuing the idea. If ARL and NCC want to proceed, it will be necessary to work through NACSIS.

D. Newspapers

The NCC had an initial discussion about developing a project to improve access to Japanese newspapers. Because newspapers are increasingly available electronically on the Internet from Japan, it was decided that the most useful project would be the development of a finding aid which would include information on both hardcopy and electronic newspapers. The index tool could be made available on the WWW and updated regularly to reflect changes. The NCC will need to obtain funding and to "contract" with a librarian to develop the index.

E. Other

E. Gangloff inquired about the status of a librarian training program which had been part of NCC grant requests in the past. Difficulties remain in developing a persuasive case for funding, but the NCC will attempt to put together an assessment as background for developing a proposal. The proceedings of the Indiana conference on area studies librarianship have just been published and H. Springer will obtain a copy. Unfortunately D. Gregor's earlier investigation of the statistics developed by ARL as part of the Indiana conference are not particularly useful in building the case for special training programs for Japanese studies librarians. The W. K. Kellogg foundation is interested in librarian training and could be a potential funding source.

IV. Funding

A. Financial Report--D. Gregor

D. Gregor reported that the NCC had not yet heard from the Japan Foundation about this year's funding. In future the NCC will be sure to meet the Japan Foundation's December 1 deadline. The JUSFC has generously permitted the carryforward of unexpended funds from 95/96. Those funds are largely the result of the Director's salary being paid for 9 rather than 12 months. It was decided that the Director would provide a written financial status report at the January meeting. E. Gangloff stated that JUSFC was

impressed by D. Gregor's summary of NCC's financial relations with JUSFC during the past five years.

B. Funding prospects

Several possible sources of future support were mentioned, e.g., the Starr Foundation and the Pew Trust. CGP, as mentioned above, may be interested in the electronic resources training program. Additionally, it was noted that the Japan Foundation has a program for ongoing support of some 28 Japanese studies organization and it was decided to pursue the possible inclusion of the NCC in that program. K. Kahler and A. Heinrich will include a meeting with the Japan Foundation when they visit CGP.

V. Other Business

A. CEAL Japanese Materials Committee Report

S. Noguchi was in Japan and could not attend the NCC meeting. Her report was submitted in writing. During the next 3 years the CEAL committee will focus on Japanese librarian training, developing programs for the AAS meeting, and other possibilities. One of the latter is continuing work on the JAPUL International Library Cooperation Project, a project to enable U.S. libraries to acquire needed items from the materials no longer needed by academic libraries in Japan. A continuing problem is the lack of a list of the titles available and the need for U.S. librarians to know what may be available. Later in the meeting there was a brief demonstration of the remote bibliographic input system developed by UCSD to enable librarians to communicate information about titles through the use of a Web page developed by the UCSD Supercomputer Center.

B. Japan Documentation Center Report-I. Morita

I. Morita reported that LC had a new Deputy Librarian, retired general David Donald Laverne Scott. LC's WWW homepage now includes the Asian Division. The date of the move of the Asian Division and JDC to the Jefferson Building is not yet set. The Library is in the midst of reviewing its automated system possibilities, with Barbara Tillett, Chief of the Cataloging Policy Division, in charge of the review. The Asian Division is suffering from a number of vacant positions, and it is not clear what staffing will look like in the future. LC is working toward a 1 to 15 supervisory ratio. In response to several inquiries it was mentioned that Helen Poe is currently supervising the Japanese Section.

JDC has sponsored another successful symposium and the proceedings will soon be available from NTIS. The SCORPIO system used by the Congressional Research Service has carried JDC's information in the past, but CRS is now transferring its bibliographic database to STAR to create and retrieve information on optically scanned documents. JDC's five year contract expires in April, 1997, and there will be a review of the program for the renewal of the contract.

C. NEAC Report--K. Brazell

Harvard's Andy Gordon is now Chair of the Northeastern Area Council of the AAS, and the NCC was pleased to hear that E. Krauss had recently been elected to NEAC. Other AAS area councils have no funding, but NEAC does, although no staff support, which makes program development difficult. Increasingly NEAC is looked on as representing the field because even though the Social Science Research Council still has a Japanese Committee, the Joint Committee (with the American Council of Learned Societies) no longer functions. It was suggested that the NCC-NEAC relationship is one

that should be nurtured and that the chair of NEAC and the NCC chair could meet once a year, perhaps over lunch at the AAS meeting. NEAC is interested in librarian training. Joint NCC-NEAC grants might be developed and joint trips to Japan undertaken. The NCC Chair will also talk with John Campbell about strengthening communications between NCC and AAS in general.

D. Japan Foundation American Advisory Committee--A. Heinrich

A. Heinrich attended NCC for the first time as a representative of the AAC and reminded the group that the January NCC meeting should include discussion to advise her on the NCC goals for transmitting to the AAC.

E. Japan-U.S. Friendship Commission-E. Gangloff

E. Gangloff reminded the NCC of that JUSFC endowment can be invested only in government bonds. Since Japanese government bonds are yielding next to nothing these days, the yen endowment, in particular, is suffering. The Commission can spend up to 5% of its principal each year, but interest cannot be spent unless appropriated by Congress. Congress is looking for budget cuts and may force reliance on spending of principal as a way of eliminating the JUSFC over time.

JUSFC's newsletter, *The Commissioner*, includes a summary of the Commission's priorities, and E. Gangloff offered to insure that all NCC members were on the mailing list. The NCC was pleased to hear that its success in coordinating the interests of the Japanese studies community in developing library resources would be used as an infrastructure model for other areas. Cost sharing would continue to be an important component of JUSFC program support.

The CULCON Information Access Working Group met in Berkeley on July 11-12 and set concrete objectives for improving the flow of information on the Internet. Those objectives were very much in accord with the NCC's priorities, e.g., "to make essential Japanese bibliographic databases easily accessible through the Internet and other channels with fee structures and payment mechanisms supportive of use outside of Japan". Progress on the measures will be reviewed at CULCON XVIII which will meet on May 8-9 in Washington, D.C.

Winter Meeting Place and Date--MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Place: Durant Hotel, Berkeley, California Date: January 10-11, 1997

After the meeting D. Gregor confirmed these dates with the Durant Hotel.