

**Minutes of the Meeting of the North American Coordinating Council  
On Japanese Library Resources  
C.V. Starr East Asian Library, Columbia University  
New York City  
September 8th and 9th 2000**

*Present:* Kristina Troost, Chair, Sachie Noguchi, Chair-elect; Council Members Hideyuki Morimoto, Laurel Cornell, Mary E. Jackson, Pat Steinhoff (for John Campbell), Stephen Miller, Amy Heinrich, Mihoko Miki, Helen Poe, Lynne Kutsukake (for Tsuneharu Gonnami); Laura Potter and Masaki Hirano of the New York Japan Foundation Office; and Victoria Bestor, NCC Director. *Absent:* Tamiko Matsumura and Eddy Harrison

NCC Chair Kris Troost opened the meeting by welcoming Masaki Hirano, the new Assistant Director of the Japan Foundation New York Office.

The Minutes of the January 2000 NCC Board Meeting were reviewed, and approved as corrected.

***Old Business***

***Reports:***

Masaki Hirano, Assistant Director, Japan Foundation New York reported that the new guidelines for 2001 are now available. The library support guidelines have been revised to include the options for monetary or book donation grants in all categories. Also the JF-NDL program was discussed and Mr. Hirano said that notification on the selection of 2001 candidates would take place shortly. It is hoped that both US candidates, Naomi Kotake and Ellen Hammond, will be selected.

In the absence of a Japan-United States Friendship Commission representative, Margaret Mihori's written report was entered into the record. In addition the two reports she provided on CULCON's Digital Culture Resources Project, which has become a central focus of the Commission's funding for the immediate future were reviewed. Copies of those reports were distributed in advance to all board members and will be appended with the approved minutes in the files. In short, the Commission has allocated considerable funding to the digital project and has more major requests before them than they can fund. They expect, therefore, that funding will be very tight for at least the next year and are actively discouraging proposals for new projects. There will also be major turnover in Commission membership in the next year, including a new chairman.

Due to the one-year memorial ceremony for her mother, Japan Liaison Tamiko Matsumura was unable to attend. In Matsumura-san's absence her successor on the NCC board at the end of her term in June 2001 was discussed and it was agreed that Kris would consult each of the three past Japan liaisons regarding their suggestions for Matsumura-san's successor. Matsumura-san's brief report was reviewed by the Council, it too will be appended to the approved minutes in the files.

NCC Director Vickey Bestor reported that the NCC had ended fiscal year 1999 with a small surplus in their meetings budget due to the aftermath of Hurricane Floyd's preventing one member from attending in September 1999 and Tamiko Matsumura's absence from the same meeting due to the death of her mother. In addition there is a small surplus in the Year 2000 conference budget that the Friendship Commission has suggested be used to further projects identified as priorities at that conference. Vickey also reported that all NCC bank accounts have been consolidated at M&T Bank in Ithaca and that a Certified Public Accountant has been engaged to supervise the NCC's accounts and tax filings.

Hideyuki Morimoto gave the CEAL report outlining tentative plans for the annual meetings noting that there is a problem with room availability in conjunction with the AAS. He will keep the NCC posted on developments. In the context of AAS scheduling the timing of the NCC's open meeting was discussed.

Helen Poe reported on activities at the Library of Congress. She announced the hiring of a new Japanese Studies Bibliographer, Beth Katzoff a recent Columbia PhD who is a specialist in women's history. (Beth joined the group for dinner.) The Japanese section staff has filled all JDC requests since the JDC closed on April 1, and the demand has been uneven. Yoko Akiba will be making an acquisitions trip to Japan including the prefecture of Okinawa. Helen asked for suggestions of contacts in Okinawa. She also reported on the Japanese Rare Books Project headed by Kenji Watanabe which has identified 3680 titles, a catalog of which will be published in Japan. A member of the Japanese Cataloging Team in LC is inputting catalog records of the rare books on RLIN. Finally Helen reported that there will be an exhibition of Ukiyo-e from the LC collection in October 2001. 150 items will be exhibited including both prints and rare books, there will be a symposium and catalog.

Kris reported briefly on the Year 2000 Conference and noted that further discussions on the recommendations coming out of that conference will be ongoing. Thereafter an update on new projects underway since the conference was discussed.

Vickey provided an update on the Electronic Help Desk Task Force headed by Gail King of BYU. Vickey reported that a small pilot project is being initiated using ten volunteer librarians answering questions posed by 10 faculty members in various disciplines. The test will be reported on in a poster session at the AAS meeting next year.

Ellen Hammond's Consortial Licensing Task Force mission statement draft was discussed. It was suggested that Ellen should examine the experience of SOLINET, one of the regional OCLC networks and their negotiations for the national contract for Lexus-Nexus. Mary Jackson offered to provide details and Hideyuki Morimoto offered to provide further input.

#### **Friday, September 8th, Afternoon Session (1:00 to 5:00)**

Yasuko Makino the new co-chair of MVS joined for the afternoon's discussions. Rob Britt's update on the MVS review was discussed with Pat Steinhoff adding information about the usage survey of MVS volumes that she conducted. Pat Steinhoff also discussed plans for her survey of librarians, the draft of which the Council reviewed in detail. The MVS review will be completed before the January meeting at which time future directions will be discussed by the full Council. Duke will post a sample application on the NCC's website for future applicants to review.

Mary Jackson reported on the ARL/AAU/NCC Japan Journal Access Project. Plans are still being finalized for a review of the document delivery pilot with ANUL in Tokyo in January 2001. Notification on funding for the US representatives to the meeting is expected sometime in October.

Mary mentioned that she has been asked to write a background paper on copyright for the upcoming CULCON meetings in May 2001. She offered a summary of copyright related issues in response to a question from Laurel Cornell.

Mary also reported on the July 20th meeting in Washington evaluating progress on the Union List of Japanese Serials and Newspapers and future options for the Union List were discussed by the full Council. Dru Mogge of ARL will visit Ohio State to examine the technical aspects of the Union list to determine its the viability for possible migration to another site, possibly to the Center for Research Libraries (CRL) in Chicago. Together the Council agreed that the key objectives of the Union List are to aid cooperative collection development, interlibrary loan, reference, and preservation.

Mihoko Miki again raised questions about cooperative collection development while Mary moderated the discussion and cited examples from other fields. The discussion will be ongoing and the determinations of the MVS review will be critical to the Council's decisions on its future cooperative collection efforts.

### **Saturday, January 8th, Morning Session (9:00 to 1:00)**

Amy Heinrich began with a discussion of Japan Foundation representation to the NCC. Amy will ask the AAC to nominate a new member to replace her and serve as the NCC representative. It was agreed that the NCC should invite a member to serve in a manner similar to the invitation now issued to NEAC.

Nominations to the Council were discussed. Stephen Miller agreed to serve an additional year to even out rotations. In addition, Naomi Kotake was elected to fill the position being vacated by Kris Troost in January 2001. Three people were elected to fill slots being vacated at the end of June 2001. Those elected were Yasuko Makino, Lynne Kutsukake, and Rob Britt. If any one of them cannot serve, Sharon Domier was designated as an alternate to be asked to serve.

The question of having an official Canadian representative to the NCC was discussed. The position currently held by Tsuneharu Gonnami from UBC is not officially a Canadian slot. However the Council agreed that it would be good to try always to have a Canadian Japanese Studies librarian on the Council. Lynne Kutsukake was elected to fill that position. It was also agreed that Vickey should work with Mr. Hirano of the Japan Foundation NY office to see if the Japan Foundation in Canada would agree to fund a Canadian slot in the future. If they agree, Lynne's slot will be funded in that manner and an additional Japanese studies librarian from the US will be added to the Council.

Keiko Yokota-Carter of the University of Washington was elected to serve on the MVS Committee. It is expected that she will succeed to the chairship when Yasuko Makino rotates off the MVS Committee in two years.

Vickey reported briefly on the Japan Art Catalog Project. It was agreed that she would ask Julie Davis of Oberlin to serve on the JAC Committee. During the coming months the JAC Committee will decide on the library to become the repository for Western Art Catalogs in Japanese.

Sachie Noguchi read a report on the January 2000 JF/NDL Librarian Training Program in which she and Lynne Kutsukake participated. A broader discussion on the future of librarian training programs was held. It was agreed that details on the benefits of the current program and a survey on the need for future training should be sent to the Japan Foundation New York Office. Mr. Hirano offered to work with the NCC to discuss the need with the new head of the Receiving Division of the Exchange of Persons office in Tokyo. It is understood that the US with its very large number of Japanese Studies programs has an exceptional need for more training. Vickey will work with Mr. Hirano and Laura Potter on these efforts.

It was also mentioned that in the past, librarians who have not yet participated in the program have asked if training materials might be shared. Evidentially there is some question of individual copyright to some of the materials. Mr. Hirano stated that he could discuss this with the Receiving Division as if Ms. Noguchi would give him a list of those materials.

Laurel Cornell briefly discussed the Northeast Asia Council and it was requested that she report in more detail on funding trends in NEAC grants to help keep the NCC abreast of new research directions in the field.

Lynne Kutsukake reported on the formation of the NCC Canadian Advisory Group which will be chaired by Tsuneharu Gonnami.

Time was running short and the discussion of long-term planning and ongoing initiatives stemming from the conference was shorter than hoped for. It was agreed that further discussions will be carried on electronically. In the area of cooperative collection development, Kris will ask Eastlib for suggestions and a committee made up of Eizaburo Okuizumi and Tsuneharu Gonnami was proposed to be asked to compile a list of important volumes not held in US collections. Such a committee will be expected report back to the NCC. Thereafter the list will be circulated within the field to determine if any of those volumes have been purchased, and if not to determine whether there is consensus on which books truly are essential. This list will be useful for long term planning and possible revisions to MVS.

Vickey discussed NCC publications and announced that the Newsletter will change its schedule to February and October, both to follow NCC meetings and to fit better with the academic year. The next NCC meeting will be in Seattle at the Mayflower Hotel on January 5-6, 2001 followed by the Japan Foundation Selection Committee meeting.

The Meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Following the close of the meeting, Kris Troost, Sachie Noguchi, and Vickey Bestor met to discuss various issues related to the transition between chairs and ongoing programs. During that meeting, it was agreed that Vickey should consult with Shu Yong Jiang at the Art Institute to explore the option of holding the NCC open meeting there (the Art Institute of Chicago has happily agreed to be the site of our meeting). Also it was agreed that the NCC Homepage will move to Pittsburgh where it will be managed by incoming chair Sachie Noguchi when Kris Troost steps down as chair at the end of December. Sachie Noguchi agreed to talk with Mr. Okuizumi and Mr. Gonnami about forming a committee to assist with the evaluation of cooperative collection efforts to date.