

The Librarian Professional Development Committee (LPDC):

Report to the NCC Board Meeting September 2006

The Librarian Professional Development Committee (LPDC) was established in late March 2006 with the goal of serving the role of coordinating continuing education and professional development activities for Japanese and East Asian studies librarians who serve faculty, students, and other users in the Japan field. The followings are the charges to the LPDC:

- 1 Serve as a point of communication on professional development needs for the NCC
- 2 Serve as a screening committee for US applications to the Japanese Studies Information Specialists Training (JSIST) Program funded by the Japan Foundation
- 3 Solicit views on the collective needs for professional development of Japanese and East Asian studies librarians who serve faculty, students, and other users in the Japan field and make recommendations to NCC for developing future projects
4. Serve as a clearinghouse for professional development in Japanese studies librarianship and respond to individual consultation needs.

During the AAS annual meeting in San Francisco, the committee first met in person and had its first meeting in the conference hotel lunge, with the following agenda.

1. To meet each other face-to-face
2. To review the charges to the committee,
3. To plan future activities.

Through the agenda of this first meeting, the Japanese Librarian Training Needs Survey was proposed in order to plan for future committee activities. This survey was aimed at identifying the training needs for librarians engaged in serving in the area of Japanese Studies. This survey targets not only Japanese Studies librarians but also East Asian Studies librarians who serve in the Japan field. The committee members worked on the survey questionnaire drafted by Co-chair Eiko Sakaguchi and finalized it in the Web based survey version by Brigit Laffey. The survey was open on the NCC's homepage (<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~ncc/lpdc/survey.html>) and the announcement was posted on eastlib on July 19, 2006. Susequently reminders about the survey were sent via eastlib three times before the survey closed at the end of August, 2006.

The following is a brief summary of the survey results:

- 45 librarians/specialists responded to the survey.
- 42 work in academic institutions, one in public and two in research institutions.
- Of the respondents, 17 librarians/specialists have Japanese only responsibility and 22 librarians/specialists have other responsibilities as well.
- 36 respondents provided their years of experience. 13 have more than 10 years experience and 15 have less than 5 years of experience.

- The most preferred time for the training is before the AAS Conference with a preferred length of 2-3 days.
- The most selected training interests in each category are as follows:
 1. Collection Development /Acquisitions – Electronic Resources Databases
 2. Cataloging – Metadata
 3. Reference and Access – User Instruction
 4. Legal Issues Related to Japanese Librarianship – Licensing
 5. Library Technology – Digitization
 6. Other Training Interests – Grant Proposal Writing

(Refer to attached copies for more detailed survey results)

The committee will further analyze this survey result and the identified detailed training needs will be used to plan future training by the NCC.

Meanwhile, Co-chair Sachie Noguchi has been working for the proposed Tenri Workshop on rare and early printed materials with Prof. H. Yamanaka of Tenri University and Ms. Izumi Tytler of Oxford University who represented the Tenri Workshop Preparatory Committee of [UK] Japan Library Group. The fund proposal to the Japan Foundation will be submitted by Ms. Tytler; LPDC plans to submit the fund proposal to the NEAC. If funded, the Tenri Workshop is planned to take place in June 2007.

Reported by Co-chairs, Eiko Sakaguchi and Sachie Noguchi on behalf of the LPDC.