

NCC LPDC (Librarian Professional Development Committee) Business Meeting Minutes

Date: April 6, 2006,

Venue: Marriott San Francisco right after the CEAL Fellowship dinner

Present: Co-Chairs Sachie Noguchi and Eiko Sakaguchi; Committee Members: Cathie Chiu, Kio Kanda, Sumie Ota, Mari Suzuki; Advisory Yasuko Makino; Ex-Officio: Tokiko Bazzell, Victoria Bestor and Toshie Marra.

Agenda: 1. To meet each other face-to-face

The meeting was the first time all members were able to meet face to face, to review the NCC's charges to the new committee, and to plan more concretely how to initially implement those charges. The Agenda and the charges on the committee including the list of committee members were distributed.

Agenda 2. To review the charges to the committee,

2.1 Serve as a point of communication on professional development needs for the NCC

The primary charge to the LPDC is to serve as a point of communication on professional development needs for the NCC. Chair Toshie Marra cited as an example of this role the committee's liaison with the current efforts of European colleagues to plan a training workshop at Tenri University. Co-chair Sachie Noguchi explained to the members that this project was initiated in the U.K. proposed by Tenri Prof. H. Nakayam and spearheaded by Izumi Tytler of Oxford University. Subsequent discussions about the Tenri workshop took place with the Japan Foundation in December 2005. The current plan is for the program to include colleagues in Western world including Australia, but not include colleagues from Asia this time around. The plans for the Tenri Workshop are still evolving and discussions will continue this September at the EAJRS Meeting in Venice with an eye to holding the workshop in 2007 or thereafter.

2.2 Serve as a screening committee for US applications to the Japanese Studies Information Specialists Training (JSIST) Program funded by the Japan Foundation

The LPDC will also serve as a screening committee for US applications to the Japanese Studies Information Specialists Training (JSIST) Program funded by the Japan Foundation. The logistics for the screening process was further discussed and it was agreed that Vickey and the NCC staff will continue to play their usual role in drafting announcements in consultation with the Committee and receiving applications submitted by email, and then distributing those applications to the screening committee. The Committee will form the Screening Subcommittee which may include appropriate personnel(s) from outside of the Committee. As noted in the NCC January Meeting report, the LPDC will then forward their ranked recommendations back to the NCC's Executive Committee which will review and approve that ranking. As in the past the formal recommendation will be made to the Japan Foundation by the NCC.

2.3 Solicit the collective needs in 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

Another important role of the LPDC is to solicit the collective needs in 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. To that end the committee discussed conducting a survey of the field. It was agreed that to the extent possible, the LPDC should make use of the data gathered by the recently conducted Japan Foundation Survey of the Field of Japanese Studies in the US and Canada. The Committee will also develop additional questions to be asked and the survey should include not only full time Japanese studies librarians but also catalogers and multiple subject librarians who are responsible for the development of Japanese collections and for serving the needs of Japanese studies faculty and students. Co-chair Eiko Sakaguchi will draft the survey questionnaire and distribute to the committee by the end of April.

2.4 Serve as a clearinghouse for professional development in Japanese studies librarianship and respond to individual consultation needs

The LPDC will also serve as a clearinghouse for professional development in Japanese studies librarianship by providing individual consultation as needed. In this context the committee discussed the difference between this charge and CEAL's new mentoring activities. Mari Suzuki pointed out that the CEAL's mentor program is based on the category of the problems and not well serve for an individual needs. The LPDC should compliment CEAL's efforts. To explain why this charge was made, Executive Director Vickey Bestor stated the following example discussed in the NCC board meeting; among the important contributions the LPDC can make in this regard is by providing contacts for librarians going to Japan. These contacts are especially needed by non-Japanese librarians, by those who did not study in Japanese universities, and by multiple subject specialists who do not have a Japan background. For a clearinghouse purpose it was agreed that the e-mail address (LPDC@nccjapan.org) will be created for the Committee and the account will be monitored by NCC's assistant (title?), Yoko Okunishi who will forward relevant mails to the co-chairs.

Agenda 3. Planning of the future activities

Among the future activities discussed by the LPDC was the mounting of the committee's page on the NCC website and plans for creating term rotations for the committee. It was agreed that the Committee would like to decide on rotations after they have worked together for two years.