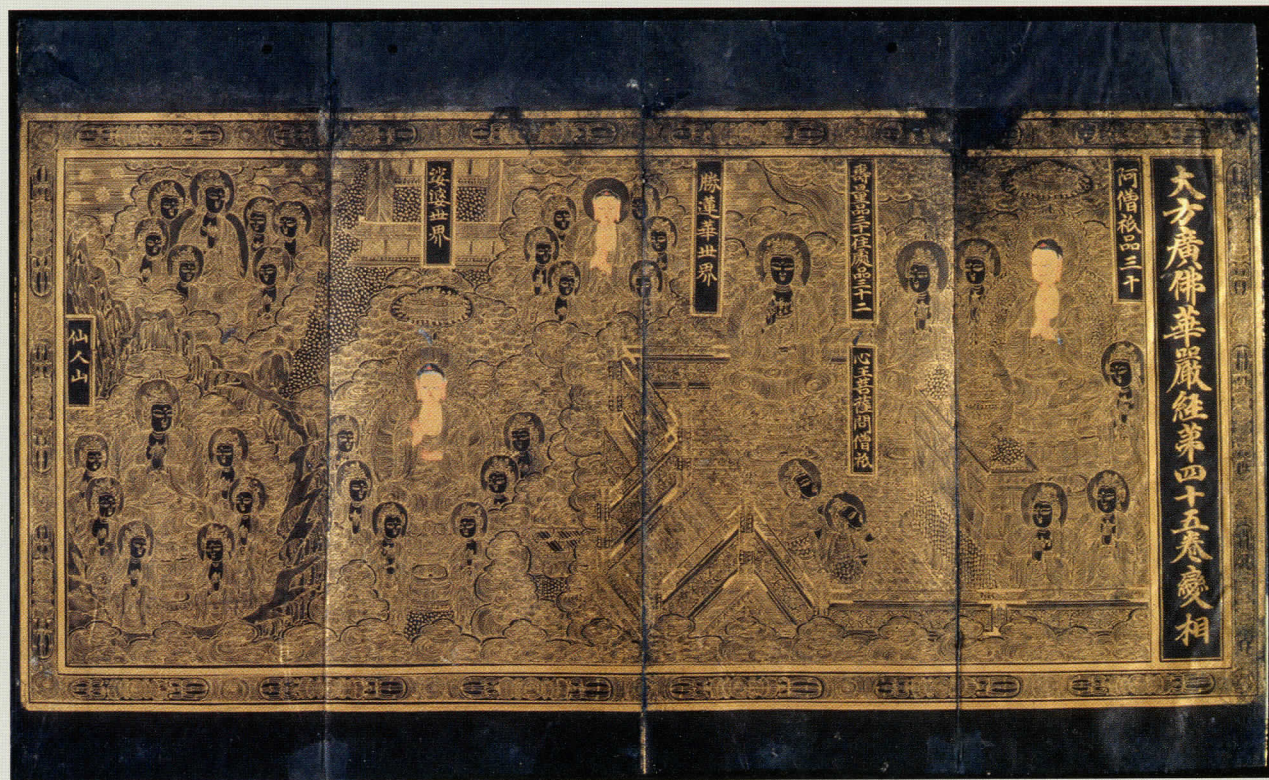


19 / FIFTY YEARS OF THE EAST ASIAN COLLECTION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS

VICKIE FU DOLL



Korean-Chinese manuscript copy of the forty-fifth chapter of the Avatamsaka sutra, Dae bangwangbul hwaeomgyeong 大方廣佛華嚴經, 1350.
Photograph courtesy of the Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

The Kansas legislature established the University of Kansas (KU) in 1864. The university opened in 1866. It was the first public institution of higher education in the state of Kansas. Many major universities, including KU, began to offer interdisciplinary courses in geographical areas in the 1950s. A new course on Far Eastern governments and politics was proposed in 1950 by geographer Thomas Smith and political scientist Francis Heller, both East Asian specialists. When they examined the library's holdings, they found the materials outdated and inadequate for their needs. They brought the problem to the attention of KU's chancellor, Deane Malott, who allocated \$2,500 to buy social science books on East Asia. However, the library could not use the money to purchase more books because there was a huge backlog of unprocessed East Asian language materials due to a lack of technical support staff and language specialists.¹ This is not an unusual situation for many research libraries even today. This chapter traces KU's East Asian studies program and collections since the mid-1950s.

NDEA AND KU'S EAST ASIAN STUDIES

The Soviet Union's successful launch of Sputnik I in 1957 shocked the United States and brought immediate concern for American national security. The National Defense Education Act (NDEA) was enacted by the Congress in September 1958 to provide new federal support for area studies centers and foreign language curricula in higher education across the country. The purpose of this legislation was to "insure trained manpower of sufficient quality and quantity to meet the national defense needs of the United States."² To accomplish this goal, the federal government first supported the education of specialists in various disciplines, including foreign languages and area studies, and later expanded its support to international education at all levels.

An NDEA grant led to the founding of the University of Kansas's Center for East Asian Area Studies (hereafter the Center) in 1959 and supported the curriculum development for Chinese and Japanese language courses. The

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establishment of the Center was announced in a 1963 newsletter of the Association for Asian Studies.³ Among today's hundred-plus East Asian collections and libraries of various sizes, at least one-third were founded in the 1960s, most state libraries and land grant university libraries were funded through NDEA, Ford, Fulbright-Hays, and Mellon grants.⁴

In addition to language study, interdepartmental courses such as History of Asia, Traditional China and the Modernization of Japan, Geography of the Far East, Government and Politics in the Far East, Seminar in East Asian History, and Seminar in International Relations of the Far East were among the first offered during the 1950s and early 1960s at KU. Within a few years, at least a dozen East Asian studies faculty members regularly offered East Asian studies courses. Summer intensive Chinese and Japanese language institutes were sponsored jointly with the University of Colorado and Washington University at Saint Louis. "One of the most important things being done to develop the curriculum of area studies [at KU] is the establishment of a resource library. . . . The ultimate goal of a language program is to equip students to master the language so they can perform research using primary resources written in those languages and not to depend entirely on translations," stated Benjamin Wallacker, then an assistant professor of East Asian studies, in a news release in October 1960 by the American Council of Education. The NDEA and the Ford Foundation grants included funding for library materials and salaries for professional library staff at KU. Although the university had already allocated funds to purchase East Asian publications, the money could not be used because the library did not have qualified staff to process those materials. To

solve this problem, Karl Lo, who was the exchange and gifts librarian of the Main Library at that time, was reassigned as a part-time East Asian cataloger in 1961.

THE BEGINNING OF EAST ASIAN COLLECTION

Karl Kwok-Bong Lo 盧國邦 (1935–2007) came to KU Libraries as head of the Gifts and Exchange Section of the Acquisitions Department in 1959. He graduated from the Hong Kong Chung Chi College in 1958 with a diploma in chemistry. He later received a Master of Science in Library Science (MSLS) from Atlanta University in 1960. At that time, East Asian language materials were being requested regularly, giving rise to a functional East Asian collection in KU Library. With a part-time reassignment, Lo worked as an East Asian cataloger from September 1961 to November 1962 in the Preparations Department, quickly displaying his aptitude in every aspect of his new job.

In January 1960, the Center prepared a proposal to the NDEA for continuation of language teaching at KU. A "Chinese/Japanese librarian" was included as an immediate need in addition to funding for collection development. The proposal also suggested that "in cooperation with the university libraries, a separate division for Chinese and Japanese materials should be established."⁵ This was the earliest proposal for a separate collection of East Asian materials in the KU libraries. Following the national trend, the Center continued to push the idea of a separate East Asian collection. Robert Vosper, the director of libraries, asked Earl Farley, head of the Preparation Department, to conduct a survey of East Asian collections at the University of Michigan; Library of Congress (LC); New York Public

Library; Princeton; Yale; Columbia; Harvard; University of California, Berkeley; the Hoover Institution at Stanford; the University of British Columbia; and the University of Washington in November 1960. The survey included findings on cataloging, organizing, and shelving of East Asian language materials as well as on organizational matters. In the spring of 1961, Vosper discussed with the East Asian Area Center Executive Committee how best to house the expanding Chinese and Japanese holdings. A decision was made to separate the East Asian language materials from the Main Library. This decision was consistent with the survey results, as most libraries agreed that "the only economical and effective way to handle East Asian materials is to have a separate collection for them."⁶

When Karl Lo was appointed East Asian cataloger in 1961, he asked the library and the Center to send him to the Library of Congress for observation and training at its Orientalia Division in April and May of 1962. The arrangement was for him to gather firsthand information from the most authoritative organization for cataloging and collection development of East Asian materials, with the support of Horace Poleman, chief of the Orientalia Division.⁷ Lo also expressed his views on a separate East Asian section when he wrote about his discussions with his colleagues in other libraries.

All librarians that had been conversed with found that it was efficient and economical to separate East Asian materials from the main collection and have a special "section" to handle all operations such as cataloging, order processing and reference service. Most librarians agreed it was desirable to have the accounting,

*book preparation, gifts/exchanges, card preparation handled by regular staff.*⁸

Eleanor Symons, then acting head of the Preparations Department and Karl Lo's supervisor, recommended that Lo be promoted to head the newly created East Asian Reading Room/Library at the end of 1962.⁹ A few months before the East Asian Reading Room was to open, in November 1963, Associate Library Director Stuart Forth changed Lo's job title from East Asian cataloger to "Librarian, East Asian Library."¹⁰ The change reflected the library's recognition of the importance of the newly established East Asian collection.

The Executive Committee of East Asian Area Studies met frequently to discuss agenda items on budgets, programs, new hires, and library materials. The board met at 1332 Louisiana Street, an off-campus house that accommodated the new Center. Correspondence between the Center, Karl Lo, and the library administration was concentrated on the Center and library development. In those years, NDEA and Ford Foundation grant funding for library materials was distributed to the librarian and several faculty members for book selection. Faculty members would be advanced cash to purchase books while traveling overseas. Receiving and cataloging those books was done by the library's Preparations Department. Transaction invoices in various forms and miscellaneous postage and handling fee records are evidence of an active involvement on the part of the faculty in the library's collection development. In the fall of 1963, questions about the "economy" and "efficiency" of the faculty's acquisition activities were raised. The board suggested hiring an assistant librarian to help Lo with acquisitions. It also agreed that library acquisitions

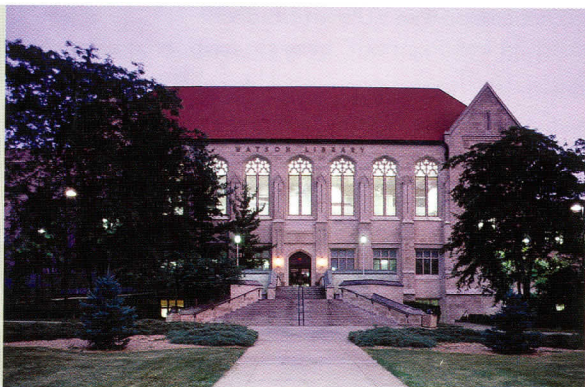


FIGURE 1: *Kansas University's Watson Library at dusk. The East Asian Library is located on the top floor. Photograph courtesy of David F. McKinney, KU University Relations.*

should shift from faculty to the library staff. Lo then developed guidelines for those faculty members who still wished to assist in purchasing library materials when they traveled overseas. The board made an agreement with the library's director, Thomas Buckman, to reserve a portion of the fund for "special purchases" by faculty.

In 1964, the collection was moved to new quarters on the first floor of the Watson Library, where it was named the East Asian Library, with Lo as the first East Asian librarian and an assistant East Asian librarian who would soon be hired.¹¹ The collection was to be built as a general corpus of materials to reflect the specific interest of teaching and research in East Asian studies on campus. From 1960 to 1964, it grew by 4,000 to 6,000 volumes a year, and contained monographs, microfilm, pamphlet material, and several hundred journals. Lo worked with KU's Japanese acquisitions field representative, Ōkubo Genji 大窪愿二 (1915–86), whose association with the Center had been established since the early 1950s.

Ōkubo Genji assisted with Japanese collection development for about twenty years. He began his career as an employee of the Canadian embassy in Tokyo before World War II. His significant contribution in that capacity was to assist E. Herbert Norman, a Canadian, in the writing of *Japan's Emergence as a Modern State*, which is a true classic of English language scholarship on Japan.¹² Ōkubo's own specialty was the Japanese left-wing movement before World War II. Ōkubo agreed to purchase Japanese books and have paperback books bound in Japan. He also purchased National Diet Library catalog cards for KU. Lo frequently referred to Ōkubo as "the man" or "our man," and commended his service for KU's Japanese collection.¹³

During the 1960s Lo concluded a purchasing agreement with Robert L. Irick, a representative of the Association for Asian Studies' Chinese Materials and Research Aids Service Center in Taipei, Taiwan, to acquire reprints of "internal distribution" (*neibu faxing* 内部發行) materials from China and reprint microform collections. A Hong Kong vendor provided blanket order service for monographs published in China and Hong Kong. That service was eventually canceled after 1970 due to a budget decrease. In late 1965 and early 1966, Lo traveled to several European and East Asian countries, including Japan, Hong Kong,

Singapore, Malaysia, and Taiwan, to establish personal contacts with librarians and book dealers. He wrote a letter to the director of libraries, Thomas Buckman about his 1965 buying trip in particular:

[To] at least 50% of those [librarians] I met, Kansas was a strange name. They, even those that knew of Kansas, were surprised about our East Asian programs.¹⁴

During his buying trip, he collected much hard-to-find material. The value of seemingly random purchases, in his view, was the joy of discovery.

When I came upon a few camouflaged issues of the Japanese Communist Party "To Kensetsusha" [党建設者]: This was the sort of happy moment when a bibliographer gets his hands on a well-known but hard-to-find item. And the feeling is not achieved in like manner by a photocopy. With some of the lesser known, less frequently quoted materials, you may well feel that unless you hang on to the particular copy you have discovered, it may end up at a paper mill.¹⁵

Of the twenty-eight "lesser known" (as described by Lo) Chinese periodicals from the early 1920s through early 1950s, only twelve are held elsewhere in North America. None of those titles would have made its way automatically to a library in the U.S. On the same trip, Lo recorded his travel experiences and impressions of the antiquarian book markets with vivid images.¹⁶ He later purchased a few private collections from rare book vendors. Among them are the Schindler collection of Chinese classics and history and the Stern oriental art collection. The latter was bought in collaboration with KU's Art Library.

From 1959 to 1968, KU's East Asian Collection grew from a few hundred volumes to almost 50,000 quality volumes. Many years later, Lo remarked, "The strengths of a library depend first and foremost on its staff, collections and computer power. All these strengths could be united for sharing to create synergy."¹⁷ Lo's success in building KU's East Asian Collection was the result of that synergy. He left for the University of Washington in October 1968.

CHALLENGING TIMES FOR THE LIBRARY

C. K. Huang, Karl Lo's replacement, came from the University of Rochester in August 1968. In his one year at Kansas, Huang continued building the collection but had to suspend all blanket orders from Hong Kong, Japan, and Taiwan due to a budget reduction. He brought the acute shelving problem to the attention of the library administration. There were over 10,000 books not properly shelved due to the lack of shelving space. Two full-time staff members were hired under Huang: a Chinese materials curator and a clerk. At the same time, the library retained the services of Ōkubo for the Japanese collection. In a 1969 meeting, Center director Thomas Smith warned committee members of what he considered to be "an unfortunate tendency among library officials to allege that the area programs were responsible for some difficulties of the Library." The area programs denied that allegation.¹⁸ At that time federal and foundation grants supported a portion of the East Asian Library's personnel as well as library acquisitions.

C. K. Huang left Kansas at the end of 1969. Tsunting Wang came to KU in May 1969 from the University of Malaysia to become the acting East Asian librarian until Eugene Carvalho was appointed the East Asian librarian in 1971. Carvalho was born in Japan and had a Japanese and English language background. He received a BA in Japanese from the University of Hawai'i and a Master of Library Science (MLS) from Simmons College. He was instrumental in building the library's Japanese collection from 1971 until his retirement in 1996.

In a little more than a dozen years, KU's East Asian studies program had developed into one of the nation's leading programs between Chicago and the West Coast. The program had doubled the size of its faculty in both the humanities and social sciences. The support of NDEA and the Ford Foundation enabled the establishment of language-teaching programs. Intensive summer institutes in Chinese and Japanese were held at Kansas under the sponsorship of a consortium of nine universities in 1971.

The next year the summer program lost federal support, and enrollment dropped by 50 percent. The university made all possible funding available to rescue the summer institutes. However, lack of federal and state funding affected

the hiring of personnel, development of new programs, and library acquisitions.

This situation was noted in a *Daily Kansan* article on July 13, 1971, quoting Chinese professor Carl Leban:

Ironically, just at this crucial juncture in America's Asian relations both government and foundations seem to be abandoning the field. . . . The impact of Asia on American interests may have begun with our entry into that area a century ago but it has increased vastly with each of three wars the United States has fought in Asia during the past 30 years. . . . Now, more than ever, it is vitally necessary that the United States understand the cultures.

In 1973, NDEA discontinued its support of East Asian studies at KU. The effect on library acquisitions was detrimental. Inflation in Asia and increasing publishing costs caused East Asian book prices to soar to an unprecedented level. A combination of U.S. currency devaluation and the withdrawal of government support reduced the library's purchasing power by nearly 70 percent. Collection growth slowed despite a generous increase in state support. The situation was not unique to Kansas; the annual growth of many East Asian collections across the country slowed down during the early 1970s.

Eugene Carvalho came to KU during this challenging time. More attention was given to developing Japanese collections. During the budget decline, the library was able to catch up with backlog processing since new acquisitions slowed immensely. Carvalho took a leave of absence during the academic year 1976–77 for a research project in Japan funded by the Japan Foundation. The library received several grants from the Japan Foundation and the Metropolitan Center for Studies in Far Eastern Art. It also received a Japan World Exposition Commemorative Grant and a State of Kansas Interlibrary Loan Grant.

While Carvalho was on leave, the Libraries Staff Committee for Facilities Planning (LSCFP) recommended that the East Asian collection be integrated into the Main Library collections. It had been little more than a dozen years since the establishment of the East Asian collection, and it was obvious that the LSCFP members had not

studied previous decisions, nor did they discuss the matter with any East Asian staff, including Carvalho. Carvalho was very concerned when he heard about this. Abandoning his ordinarily calm demeanor, he wrote a letter to the library director, Jim Ranz, to report the facts. He also wrote a forceful five-page letter by hand (he was in Japan at the time and probably did not have access to a typewriter) to the LSCFP chair to dispute the committee's recommendation. "Most people are too susceptible to preposterous notions about East Asian language materials or too disinterested in them to find out much about them," he wrote. "Your readiness to dismiss the EAL because there is no room for us in your current plan, adequately demonstrates the tendency I described above."¹⁹

Carvalho compared the LSCFP's recommendation to dismantle the East Asian Library to a story he heard as a child: a glove maker presents a pair of four-fingered gloves to a king and tells him that it is too difficult to make the five-fingered ones as requested. The glove maker recommends to the king that the royal hands should be made to fit the gloves by cutting off the little fingers. After all, most people, including the king, have very little use for little fingers. The story ends when the king orders a tailor to make a coat for the glove maker without a hole for his neck, and has the glove maker beheaded to fit his new coat.

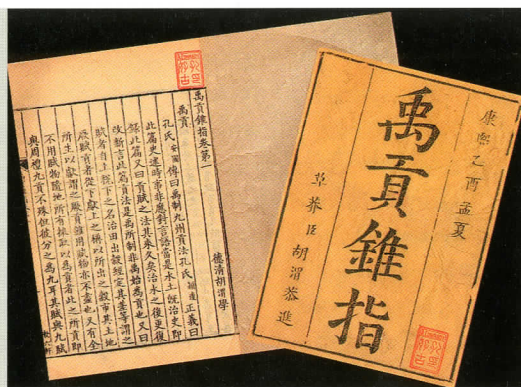
Carvalho asked the committee that the recommendation to eliminate the East Asian Library be reviewed and that nothing be changed before they consulted with him. He copied the entire letter, also by hand, to the director of the KU libraries. Carvalho knew what was wrong with the committee's recommendations. Fortunately, the committee did not get what it wanted, and the East Asian Library's status

remained unchanged thanks largely to Carvalho's efforts. In his view, it was a sad situation that something like that could ever happen. If history teaches us any lesson, it is that the vibrancy of the KU collection may some day be threatened with once again having to wear "a pair of four-fingered gloves," or that the library program may some day be dismantled because "there is no place for you in our plan."

It was not until 1981 that the library was able to regain the Chinese bibliographer position that was eliminated in the 1970s. Gary Bjorge 包嘉禮 served as the assistant East Asian librarian with a focus on Chinese studies from 1980 to 1984 and Ju-yen Teng 鄧汝言 from 1985 to 1987. The two Chinese bibliographers were able to increase the Chinese collection and add analytical entries to Chinese collectanea (*congshu* 叢書) sets. During the mid-1980s, East Asian Library serials processing moved over a thousand records from the card catalog to the library's online system before joining the Online Computer Library Center's Chinese/Japanese/Korean (OCLC CJK) membership in 1989.

COLLECTION RESOURCES

As a medium-sized collection in the Midwest that has always been influenced by outside forces and trends, the development of KU's East Asian collection is best understood within the broader scope of the national picture. According to the 2007 *China Statistical Yearbook*, China published 160,757 first-edition titles in 2006.²⁰ That same year, the KU library acquired about 4,000 new titles from China—less than 3 percent of the total. Indeed, very few libraries can claim to be comprehensive and most are unable to purchase more than 10 percent of new publications, annually. KU's



collection continues to reflect the specialized research and teaching needs of its faculty and graduate students.

In 2007, KU's East Asian collection was ranked nineteenth among fifty-one North America East Asian collections and ninth among publicly funded collections.²²

In 1964, KU's collection size was ranked twenty-seventh among forty-six North American East Asian collections, according to a survey by Tsien and Winger.²³ There is a great difference between the few top-ranked collections and the smaller collections. The total of the three largest East Asian collections in North America, at Library of Congress, Harvard, and University of California, Berkeley, equals almost half of the total remaining libraries' collections. The top fifteen collections in 1964 remained at the top in 2007, all over 500,000 volumes in size. The medium-sized collections, on the other hand, have kept a steady growth rate, especially those in the Midwest, including Kansas.

Collection Conspectus for China

From 1959 to 1973, NDEA and Ford Foundation funds allowed the KU Library to acquire many primary sources, encyclopedias, collectanea, and standard reference works. For example, approximately 2,000 titles in *Shumu dawen* 書目答問 (Answers to questions on bibliography, 1874) by Zhang Zhidong 張之洞 were acquired. Chinese reference works listed in Teng and Biggerstaff's *Annotated Bibliography of Selected Chinese Reference Works* that were lacking were also acquired. The collection holds a large proportion of historical writings produced by traditional scholars writing in classical Chinese through the early 1920s. Works by the May Fourth generation historians who adopted Western-influenced perspectives are also included. In addition, the

collection contains reprints of large sets published in Taiwan in the 1960s and 1970s. Those reprinted classics, dynasty histories, and gazetteers formed the foundation of the Chinese collection at a time when China was publishing only political propaganda during its Cultural Revolution. Chinese periodicals published in the early Republican era through the 1930s have also been acquired, many in microform format. Since the 1980s, revised editions of rare historical works and reprints of early periodicals have appeared on the book market. Such materials also found their way to KU's East Asian collection. Electronic resources have enhanced scholarly research, but their exorbitant cost has consumed a large portion of the library's book budget.

The Chinese collection provides broad coverage in history, art history, language and literature, philosophy and religion, and social sciences in the modern period. It is particularly strong in the study of the Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties, early history of the Chinese Communist Party, and social and economic conditions of post-Cultural Revolution China. The library's local gazetteers from the Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties focus on central China (Huazhong 華中), north China (Huabei 華北), and northwest China (Xibei 西北).

Art history is one of the strongest programs the library supports, especially in the Tang, Song, Yuan, Ming, and Qing dynasties. The collection includes works of individual painters, especially of the Yuan and Ming dynasties, museum and exhibition catalogs, biographies and writings of the literati painters, and art criticism. Resources for the study of Dunhuang mural paintings and the history of Chinese calligraphy from the sixth century to the tenth are particularly strong. The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas

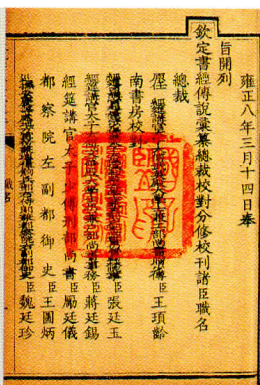


FIGURE 2: "Kong Hao guyin" 孔好古印- the collector's seal of August Conrady, in a 1705 edition of *Yugong zhuizhi* 禹貢雉指. Photograph courtesy of the East Asian Library, University of Kansas.

FIGURE 3: *Qinding shujing chuanshuo huizuan* 欽定書經傳說彙纂, 1730. Photograph courtesy of the East Asian Library, University of Kansas.

City, about fifty miles from KU's Lawrence campus, has one of the strongest Chinese art collections in the nation, and has been an active supporter of the KU Chinese and Asian art history programs.

The Chinese language and literature collection includes important works of Tang and Song poetry, Yuan and Ming drama, as well as Ming and Qing novels and prose. The library acquired the Bruno Schindler (1882–1964) collection in 1965.²⁴ The collection consists of 296 titles in 670 portfolios, with a heavy concentration on Chinese classics. This purchase was "enthusiastically endorsed" by the faculty.²⁵ The Schindler collection contains more than a dozen rare books including the Song woodblock prints of *Erya* 爾雅 (Correct approach) and *Shijing* 詩經 (Book of odes). Some titles were once owned by German sinologist August Conrady (1864–1925) and his stamp, "A. Conrady 孔好古印 [seal of Kong Haogu]," is found on *Yugong zhuizhi* 禹貢錐指 (Critical commentary on Yugong, 1705) and other volumes.²⁶ Other rare books and manuscripts in East Asian languages are held by the Spencer Research Library's Special Collections at KU. One rare item there is a Korean-Chinese manuscript of the Avatamsaka sutra 大方廣佛華嚴經, volume 45, *Dae bangwangbul hwaemyeong* (Garland flower sutra of the great square and broad world of Buddha), written in gold powder around the year 1350. The manuscript was part of the "Goryeo Dynasty: Korea's Age of Enlightenment, 918 to 1392" exhibition at the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco from October 2003 to January 2004, which was held in cooperation with the National Museum of Korea and the Nara National Museum. This piece was acquired during 1956–57 from Richard Rudolph.

The Buddhist collection provides primary sources on Buddhism including the *Taishō shinshū dai zōkyō* 大正新脩大藏經 (Taishō edition of the revised canon), *Song zang yizhen* 宋藏遺珍 (Rarities from the Song canon), *Zhonghua da zang jing* 中華大藏經 (Chinese Buddhist canon), *Fangshan shijing* 房山石經 (Stone classics of Fangshan), the Ming *Yongle beizang* 永樂北藏 (The northern capital Yongle Tripitaka), and other editions of the Tripitaka. The Chinese microform collection is strong on Republican era newspapers and journals. It also contains works on the history and development of Christianity in

China such as the Chinese Christian serials collection. The Robert Arthur Burton (1922–87) collection was given to the KU library in 1991.²⁷ It includes important English and Chinese publications on Chinese Communism and the Cultural Revolution. The collection has over 2,000 volumes, including a complete collection of party leader speeches, party policies, Red Guard booklets, pamphlets, and propaganda materials. The library received a gift collection from the late Robert Hartwell (1920–95) and Marianne Colson Hartwell in 2001.²⁸ Hartwell was a contributor to the Chinese Historical Geographical Information System at the Harvard-Yenching Library.²⁹ The Hartwell collection includes over 1,000 titles in the Chinese classics and dynastic histories, among other subjects.

Collection Conspectus for Japan

The Japanese collection began in the early 1950s thanks to the help of KU's Japanese studies faculty and Ōkubo Genji. The collection is strong in Japanese art history, Japanese left-wing movements before World War II, social and economic history, classical and modern literature, theater and drama. In recent years, it has been extended to cover film studies and popular culture. Interdisciplinary studies have been developed in greater depth and variety since 2000.

The Japanese art history collection is one of the library's strongest. The library has continually acquired publications and exhibition catalogs of major museums in Japan. It is particularly strong in paintings from the medieval to the premodern periods, including picture scrolls produced in the Heian, Muromachi, and Azuchi-Monoyama periods. The library also has an extensive collection of Edo (Tokugawa) period paintings and ukiyo-e woodblock prints thanks to the purchase of the Harold Philip Stern collection in the mid-1960s. Harold Philip Stern (1922–77) was an American art historian who specialized in Asian art. He was the director of the Freer Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution from 1971 to 1977. The Stern collection consists of over 1,000 titles in Japanese and Chinese art and art history, with a focus on Japanese ukiyo-e paintings and *hanga* (block printing). The collection is now adding commercial art of the twentieth century as well.

The Japanese collection is also strong on the performing arts. The collection covers both the primary and

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China such as the Chinese Christian serials collection. The Robert Arthur Burton (1922–87) collection was given to the KU library in 1991.²⁷ It includes important English and Chinese publications on Chinese Communism and the Cultural Revolution. The collection has over 2,000 volumes, including a complete collection of party leader speeches, party policies, Red Guard booklets, pamphlets, and propaganda materials. The library received a gift collection from the late Robert Hartwell (1920–95) and Marianne Colson Hartwell in 2001.²⁸ Hartwell was a contributor to the Chinese Historical Geographical Information System at the Harvard-Yenching Library.²⁹ The Hartwell collection includes over 1,000 titles in the Chinese classics and dynastic histories, among other subjects.

Collection Conspectus for Japan

The Japanese collection began in the early 1950s thanks to the help of KU's Japanese studies faculty and Ōkubo Genji. The collection is strong in Japanese art history, Japanese left-wing movements before World War II, social and economic history, classical and modern literature, theater and drama. In recent years, it has been extended to cover film studies and popular culture. Interdisciplinary studies have been developed in greater depth and variety since 2000.

The Japanese art history collection is one of the library's strongest. The library has continually acquired publications and exhibition catalogs of major museums in Japan. It is particularly strong in paintings from the medieval to the premodern periods, including picture scrolls produced in the Heian, Muromachi, and Azuchi-Monoyama periods. The library also has an extensive collection of Edo (Tokugawa) period paintings and ukiyo-e woodblock prints thanks to the purchase of the Harold Philip Stern collection in the mid-1960s. Harold Philip Stern (1922–77) was an American art historian who specialized in Asian art. He was the director of the Freer Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution from 1971 to 1977. The Stern collection consists of over 1,000 titles in Japanese and Chinese art and art history, with a focus on Japanese ukiyo-e paintings and *hanga* (block printing). The collection is now adding commercial art of the twentieth century as well.

The Japanese collection is also strong on the performing arts. The collection covers both the primary and

secondary sources of Kabuki and Noh plays. Visual recordings of Kabuki, Noh, and other traditional performing arts have been collected to support research and teaching. Such materials are regularly loaned to other libraries in the United States through interlibrary loan services.

The Japanese history collection, in particular from the Meiji to early Shōwa periods, is another strong area. The collection contains unique materials on the socialist and communist movements, including original and reprint issues of journals and monographs published by socialist and communist groups in the 1920s and 1930s, and Japanese left-wing movements before and after World War II. Materials on Taiwan, Chōsen (present-day North and South Korea), and Manchukuo (Manchuria) during the Japanese occupation are also found in the collection.

The women's studies collection includes major reprints of women's journals originally published in the Meiji and early Shōwa periods. It also has primary source materials on the comfort women of World War II. Publications on traditional food culture complement materials on Japanese folk beliefs, including prints and paintings of ghosts and monsters created from the Heian to Edo periods, allowing an interdisciplinary approach to the study of Japanese popular culture and folk beliefs. Additional materials on Japanese popular culture such as manga and anime have attracted students and faculty. In 2004, the library produced an exhibition examining the last half-century of Godzilla films in their Japanese historical and social contexts.³⁰

Collection Conspectus for Korea

Korean classical literature has been collected since the early 1960s. The Korean collection concentrates on core reference works, classical literature and language, history, art history, and archaeology. Since 2002, the library has made a special effort to collect Korean art history from the sixteenth to the eighteenth centuries and publications on archaeological finds dating back to the fourth to the sixth centuries in the border areas between North Korea and China. Audiovisual materials are collected to support the study of contemporary Korea with the assistance of gifts from the Korean Foundation and the Korea Film Council's film archive.

RESPONDING TO CHANGE

In 2000, the University of Kansas East Asian Library created a database for the Council on East Asian Libraries Statistics (CEAL Stats) that includes all CEAL statistical data published since 1957. The data, which begin with the Library of Congress collection, date back to 1869, and include information on East Asian collections in North America in the following categories: total holdings, volumes added annually, total number of periodicals, total number of other materials and electronic resources, fiscal support, personnel support, and user services. Its Web version also provides analytical information on the subject content of each collection.

Area studies programs are moving in new directions today. One new development is the shift from area coverage by specific countries or regions to "interarea," "cross-boundary," and "transnational" domains. Issue-driven topics such as the environment, human rights, immigration, minorities and nationalism, and popular culture are no longer confined to a single country or area. Studies have expanded to include new domains not previously covered.³² John Dardess, KU's Ming historian, expressed his views on this change.

It may be noted that research in the history of China has for some time been breaking up into topical subfields, and that these lend themselves more easily to the electronic development of resources than history taken as a whole. . . . It would appear that, for the foreseeable future, the eclectic field of history, or Sinology broadly speaking, will continue to fade, and that topical subfields will continue to burgeon. Our Department of History has specified a number of such topical fields as priorities in future hiring, among them women's history and environmental history, and the history of imperialism and of indigenous people and minorities; and there is little doubt but that my own position in pre-modern China will eventually be filled by someone whose interests lie in one or another of those fields. Library acquisitions will be directly affected by whatever hiring choice is made. Conceivably, the choice could lie in the direction of imperialism and

*minorities. . . . One history topic that has become of intense interest recently is Qing imperialism, particularly in Xinjiang and Central Asia. New history staff in that field would require the acquisition not just of more of the relevant Chinese language materials, but also of items in Manchu, Uighur, Tibetan, and Mongolian.*³³

Electronic retrieval technologies and the Internet have also added a whole new dimension to the way area studies libraries acquire, collect, and preserve scholarly information. In the past decade, several conferences and meetings have been held to discuss how area studies librarianship can meet these challenges. The most notable were those held in 1995 and 1997 at Indiana University, the Association of American Universities/Association of Research Libraries (AAU/ARL) Global Resources Program meeting held at the Library of Congress in 1998, the Yale Conference and Forum on Global Resources Network (GRN) in 2005, and the Library of Congress's Workshop on Developing Collections for International Studies in 2006.³⁴

As the winner of the 1957 Nobel Prize for Literature, the French novelist and playwright Albert Camus, once said, "After all manner of professors have done their best for us, the place we are to get knowledge is in books. The true university of these days is a collection of books." Through good times and bad, Kansas University's East Asian collection has grown steadily for fifty years. When future patrons access this collection, will they perceive the vision and values that it embodies? Will they appreciate the program goals and changes it reflects? Will they wonder who selected and gathered the materials? Will the collection be well developed and preserved for future scholars? Our work today holds answers to these hard questions.

NOTES

The author wishes to thank the librarians and staff of the University Archives at the Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, for their assistance in locating materials. Thanks also go to Michiko Ito, UK's Japanese studies librarian, who provided valuable input and collaborated on the descriptions of the Japanese collection.

¹ Francis Heller, "The Years of Chancellor Deane W. Malott," in *Per Aspera Ad Mundum: The University of Kansas Faces the World*, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, <http://spencer.lib.ku.edu/heller/chpt3.shtml> (accessed September 1, 2008).

² Lorraine McDonnell, Sue E. Berryman, and Douglas Scott, *Federal Support for International Studies: The Role of NDEA Title VI* (Santa Monica: Rand Publications, 1981), 2. The complete texts of the NDEA Title VI legislation and its successor, Title VI of the Higher Education Act, are on pages 173–84.

³ *Newsletter of the Association for Asian Studies* 8, no. 3 (1963): 38.

⁴ Tsuen-hsui Tsien, "Current Status of East Asian Collections in American Libraries 1974–5," *Committee on East Asian Libraries Newsletter* (July 1976): 41. Twenty-eight East Asian collections and libraries were founded in 1960s in the following order: National Agricultural Library; University of Pittsburgh; University of Wisconsin; Brown University; Indiana University; University of Iowa; the Chinese Library of America (San Francisco); Michigan State University; University of Arizona; University of Kansas; University of North Carolina; Washington University, Saint Louis; University of Illinois, Urbana; University of Minnesota; Oberlin College; University of Rochester; University of California, Davis; Dartmouth College; Ohio University; St. John's University (Queens, NY); University of Texas at Austin; University of California, Santa Barbara; Miami University; University of

Oregon; Bucknell University; University of Colorado; University of Massachusetts, Amherst; and University of Nebraska.

⁵ Center for East Asian Studies to the U. S. Department of Education, January 1960, "Proposal for Continuation of East Asian Languages and Area Center in Chinese and Japanese at the KU," University Archives (hereafter UA), 17/37, Box 2, Budget, Institutes, Library, 1960/61–1967/68, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas (hereafter KSRL).

⁶ Karl Lo to the Center for East Asian Studies Executive Committee, May 1963, UA, 17/37, Box 2, East Asian Languages and Cultures Correspondence, 1960/61–1967/68, KSRL.

⁷ Horace Poleman, Chief, Orientalia Division, Library of Congress, to Thomas Buckman, Director of KU Libraries, May, 1962, UA, 17/37, Box 4, EAS [East Asian Studies] Committee Minutes and Announcements, Faculty and Other Universities Correspondence, 1962–1970, KSRL.

⁸ Karl Lo to Director of Libraries, Chairman of East Asian Area Programs, Head of Preparation Department, and Head of Acquisitions Department, "A Report from Karl Lo on His Activities from March 30 to June 8," June, 1962, UA, 17/37, Box 4, 1962–1970, KSRL.

⁹ Eleanor Symons, Acting Head, Preparations Department, Recommendations for Karl Lo's Promotion, November 1962, UA, 32/1/5, Libraries, 1961/62–1967/68, KSRL.

¹⁰ Stuart Forth, Associate Director of Libraries, to Karl Lo, November, 1963, UA, 17/37, Box 4, Correspondences, KSRL.

¹¹ William Wong was hired as the East Asian cataloger for one year (1964–65) before his departure to head the

East Asian Library at the University of Minnesota.

¹² E. H. Norman (1909–57) was a historian and Canadian diplomat posted to Japan during most of the American occupation. He was intimately involved with the crafting of Japan's postwar constitution.

¹³ Memorandum, Karl Lo to Thomas R. Smith, East Asian Committee Chair, July, 1965, UA, 17/37, Box 4, 1962–1970, KSRL.

¹⁴ Karl Lo to Thomas Buckman, Director of KU Libraries, December, 1965 [sent from Taipei, Taiwan], UA, 32/1/5, Libraries, KSRL.

¹⁵ Karl Lo, "Twentieth Century China Viewed in the First Issues of Some Lesser-Known Periodicals," *Books and Libraries at the University of Kansas* 5, no. 2 (1968): 2–8.

¹⁶ Karl Lo, "Impression of the East Asian Antiquarian Book Market," *Books and Libraries at the University of Kansas* 3, no. 3 (1966): 2–4.

¹⁷ Karl Lo, "CJK, the Byte That Breaches the Dam," Paper presented at the Online Computer Library Center, Chinese/Japanese/Korean (OCLC CJK) Users' Group Twentieth Anniversary Celebration, San Francisco, April 8, 2006.

¹⁸ Minutes of the Committee on East Asian Studies, May 1969, UA, 32/1/5, Libraries, KSRL.

¹⁹ Eugene Carvalho to Nancy Bengel, Libraries Staff Committee for Facilities Planning, December 1976, UA, 32/1/8, 1976–1977, East Asian Library Correspondence, KSRL.

²⁰ *China Statistical Yearbook 2007*, China Data Online, <http://chinadataonline.org/> (accessed September 17, 2008).

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²¹ *Shuppan nenkan*, 2007 (Tokyo: Shuppan Nyususha, 2007).

²² For the ranking of total holdings for 2007, see Council on East Asian Libraries Statistics Database, <http://www.lib.ku.edu/ceal/default.asp> (accessed September 16, 2008).

²³ Tsuen-hsuei Tsien and Howard W. Winger, eds., *Area Studies and the Library* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1966).

²⁴ Bruno Schindler was a German sinologist who once studied under August Conrady. He founded the Jewish Community of Shanghai in 1912 while in China studying the history of Chinese Jews in Kaifeng. He founded the journal *Asia Major* in Germany in 1920.

²⁵ Karl Lo to Stuart Forth [Associate Director of Libraries], May, 1965, UA, 32/1/5, Libraries, KSRL.

²⁶ Conrady was an expert in classical Chinese. He was Dr. Lin Yutang's 林語堂 dissertation adviser at Leipzig University and published numerous works on Chinese language, culture, and history.

²⁷ Burton was born in Buenos Aires. He was the United Press bureau chief in Beijing from 1946 to 1949. He worked in Hong Kong for the United States Information Service and as correspondent for the ABC broadcast network. He was known as the ghostwriter of the memoirs of Zhang Guotao 張國燾, one of the founders of the Chinese Communist Party.

²⁸ Robert Hartwell was a medieval Chinese social historian who taught at the University of Pennsylvania and devoted three decades to developing a data set with his wife through his company, Chinese Historical Software, Ltd. The data set was later donated to the Harvard-Yenching Library.

²⁹ China Historical GIS, <http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~chgis/> (accessed September 16, 2008).

³⁰ University of Kansas East Asian Library, "In Godzilla's Footsteps," <http://www.lib.ku.edu/eastasia/exhibition/godzilla/index.shtml> (accessed September 16, 2008).

³¹ *Council on East Asian Libraries Statistics*, University of Kansas Libraries, <http://www.lib.ku.edu/ceal/> (accessed September 16, 2008).

³² Carolyn Brown, "The Changing Nature of Area Studies," in *Center for Research Libraries and Library of Congress International Collections Development Workshop, February 27–28, 2006* (Washington, D.C.: 2006), Chicago: The Center for Research Libraries; http://www.crl.edu/grn/Brown_CRL-LOC.pdf (accessed September 16, 2008).

³³ John Dardess, "Chinese Collections: A View from the Midwest," keynote address, Greater Western Library Alliance (GWLA) East Asian Studies Conference, Lawrence, Kansas, June 10, 2002.

³⁴ These were the Future of Area Librarianship Conference, July 13–14, 1995, Indiana University, Indianapolis; Workshop on Area Librarianship in Higher Education, July 18–19, 1997, Indiana University, Indianapolis; AAU/ARL Global Resources Program: Catalyst for Cooperation, June 24, 1998, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.; Global Resource Network Conference and Forum, March 24–25, 2005, Yale University, New Haven; and International Collections Development Workshop, February 27–28, 2006, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

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