The Korean Studies Collection at the University of Kansas

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1. The University of Kansas

Located in Lawrence, Kansas and founded in 1865, the University of Kansas (KU) recently celebrated its 150th anniversary. The university is renowned as a public research and teaching institution. In 1909, KU joined the highly regarded Association of American Universities (AAU). The university is also a member of the Association of Public and Land–Grant Universities (APLU). As of 2016, over 28,000 students from every state in the U.S. and 105 countries are enrolled at KU, including 19,245 undergraduate students and 8,755 graduate students. The Lawrence and Edwards campuses reported that 2,306 international students, almost ten percent of the combined student population of the two main campuses, were enrolled at the university in fall 2016. An average of fifty–five South Korean doctoral students have been enrolled at the university since fall 2012.

According to U.S. News and World Report, “the student–faculty ratio at University of Kansas is 16:1, and 47.9 percent of its classes have fewer than 20 students.” Over 2,600

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2) iHawk: Online services for international students, scholars & staff: University–wide international student enrollment trends. https://ihawk.ku.edu/dashboard/index.cfm?graph=studentEnrollmentTrends&isLoaded=yes
3) Ibid. https://ihawk.ku.edu/dashboard/index.cfm?graph=studentEnrollmentTrends&isLoaded=yes
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The university's thirteen schools and 100 departments provide 142 undergraduate programs and 231 postgraduate programs, including special education, public administration, pharmacy, and social welfare. One of the most famous people associated with KU was Dr. James Naismith, the inventor of basketball and the university's first basketball coach.

2. The Center for East Asian Studies

The Center for East Asian Studies (CEAS) was established in 1959 when the university received a National Defense Education Act (NDEA) grant. The NDEA itself was a Congressional response to the launch of the Sputnik satellite by the Soviet Union in 1957. One-third of all East Asian collections established in America in the 1960s received financial support through NDEA, Mellon grants, Ford grants, or Fulbright–Hays grants (Doll, 2010, p. 244). The Center is the only one of its kind in the Great Plains region of the United States. Two of its main responsibilities are to support the instruction of East Asian languages and promote East Asian studies across the curriculum. The Center offers a Master of Arts degree in Contemporary East Asian Studies that allows students to gain

[Figure 3] Bailey Hall where the Center for East Asian Studies is located. Source: Flickr, [Photograph] Retrieved from https://www.flickr.com/photos/cortneymckay/5068669331/sizes/l Copyright by cortneymckay.

6) The Great Plains covers the area of the tallgrass prairie states between the Mississippi River and the Rocky Mountains and the Canadian and Mexican borders.
7) Center for East Asian Studies: Overview http://ceas.ku.edu/overview
interdisciplinary expertise on contemporary politics, economics, and society, as well as the recent history of China, Japan, or Korea. The Center also offers Foreign Affairs Studies (FAS) of Contemporary East Asia in a Global Context, a Master’s program designed for Foreign Area Officers (FAO). According to the Center, “KU is one of the few universities in the United States to offer a 12–month FAO M.A. program focusing on East Asia.”

The Center and the Office of Study Abroad work together to promote study abroad programs in China, Japan, Korea, and Taiwan. The Center also collaborates with the Office of International Programs to accommodate visiting scholars, organize career–related events, and coordinate direct exchange programs. It offers a variety of enhancement activities, including symposia, exhibitions, and performances, as well as scholarships and awards for East Asian studies students. The Center also advises students on academic and professional careers, foreign internships, and study abroad opportunities. Outside the university, the Center coordinates programs for public schools, community groups, businesses, performing arts centers, and museums.

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8) CEAS Foreign Area Officer Master’s Program http://ceas.ku.edu/overview-0
9) Center for East Asian Studies: Overview http://ceas.ku.edu/overview
3. The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures

[Figure 5] University of Kansas Wescoe Hall where the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures is located.

Source: University of Kansas Institute for Policy & Social Research homepage,

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) offers Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in East Asian Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Tibetan, and Uyghur) with a variety of concentrations, as well as a Juris Doctor/Master of Arts program co-sponsored by the School of Law. Students may also earn master’s or doctoral degrees with an East Asian emphasis through the Departments and Schools of Anthropology, Architecture, Business, Communication, Education, Fine Arts, Geography, Government Policies, History, History of Art, Journalism, Political Science, Religious Studies, Social Welfare, Sociology, Theater and Film, and Women’s Studies. Sixty-seven faculty members from twenty-nine departments and ten professional

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10 Joint Degree Program in Law and East Asian Languages and Cultures. https://ealc.drupal.ku.edu/joint-jdma
schools within the university support bachelor's degrees with a concentration in East Asia. Faculty members that teach East Asian courses and conduct research on East Asia are core members of the Center.

In addition to undergraduate and Master's Degrees in East Asian Languages & Cultures, EALC also offers two Graduate Certificate programs. One is Graduate Certificates in East Asian Cultures in which a student “will specialize in one of three areas of East Asia, but will allow the student flexibility to study the country through the scope of other disciplines (Art History, Business, Film, History, Linguistics, Political Science, Religious Studies, Women, Gender & Sexuality Studies).”\textsuperscript{11)} Another graduate certificate program is in Second Language Studies (SLS) which “enhance the preparation and professionalization of graduate students in the School of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures (SLLC), the Department of Linguistics, and other departments affiliated with SLLC. The certificate provides an opportunity at KU for graduate students of foreign language, literature, and culture and theoretical linguistics to add a concentration in applied linguistics and language teaching.”\textsuperscript{12)}

The Language Training Center (LTC)\textsuperscript{13)} Program has provided language and culture training to Department of Defense (DoD) personnel since 2011. The University of Kansas has served as a designated LTC since the fall of 2013, and is one of only nine universities to hold that designation. The LTC program has supported the language and culture training needs of a wide range of DoD personnel, including military linguists, intelligence analysts, special operations forces, foreign area officers, and general purpose forces. KU East Asian Languages and Cultures Department is among only five LTCS which offers Korean language learning through multiple training delivery methods.\textsuperscript{14)}

\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsuperscript{11)} East Asian Languages and Cultures Graduate Certificate Opportunities https://ealc.ku.edu/gco
  \item \textsuperscript{12)} Ibid.
  \item \textsuperscript{13)} Language Training Center Program: A Department of Defense Initiative http://www.dodltc.org/
  \item \textsuperscript{14)} University of Kansas Language Training Center http://ltc.ku.edu/
\end{itemize}
4. The Korean Studies Program

No other university in the state of Kansas offers Korean language courses at the elementary, intermediate, and advanced levels. Korean instructors place equal emphasis on reading, writing, speaking, and listening abilities. The language program includes lectures and drills using native speakers as instructors. Since 2001, EALC has employed fulltime Korean studies faculty members after a seeded position was partially supported by the Korea Foundation in late 1990s. The Department of Art History added a Korean art historian in 2013, also with seed support from the Korea Foundation. The History department has had visiting Korean cultural history faculty in recent years. Other departments and professional schools have employed Korean specialists as teaching faculty in departments such as Business, Education, Fine Arts, Geography, Journalism, Linguistics, Political Science, Social Welfare, Sociology, and Women's Studies. In 2016 there are twenty-one Korean studies faculty who offered 26 unique courses in 29 sections, with 436 enrollments for spring semester.¹⁵

The University of Kansas Study Abroad program has established agreements with more than a dozen university partners in South Korea. Those programs operate semester and academic year program sites, including reciprocal exchange partners, consortium exchange programs (International Students Exchange Program), direct enrollment sites, and KU faculty-directed semester programs.¹⁶ A handful of Short Term Faculty-led Study Abroad Programs have been conducted in South Korea such as Government Policies and Sustainable Economic Development; Social Welfare, Culture, Language and Religions; and Teaching English Practicum. Compared to Chinese and Japanese studies, the Korean studies program is small but features a highly dedicated and enthusiastic group of

¹⁵ Data was generated by the Departmental Executive Management Information System (DEMIS). For Korean studies courses and Korean faculty see http://guides.lib.ku.edu/c.php?g=94977&p=616534

¹⁶ University of Kansas International Academic Exchange Agreement Institutions (Effective as of March 2015) http://international.ku.edu/sites/international.ku.edu/files/docs/Directory%202015%20-%202016.pdf
specialists who have raised the profile of Korean studies at the university. Figure 6 shows Korean courses offered from 2012 to 2015, the number of unique courses, the total sections, and total enrollments. Some variation occurs since not all courses are offered every year.

![Korean Courses and Enrollment 2012-2015](image)

[Figure 6] University of Kansas Korean Courses, Sections and Enrollment, 2012–2015.
Source: The Departmental Executive Management Information System (DEMIS)

5. The University of Kansas Libraries (KUL)

![University of Kansas Watson Library](image)

[Figure 7] University of Kansas Watson Library.
Source: Flickr. [Photograph], Retrieved from https://www.flickr.com/photos/behind_blue_eyes/3374872959/sizes/l/, Copyright by J.V. Brennan,
The University of Kansas Libraries (KUL) is a member of the Association of Research Libraries and the largest library collection in the state of Kansas. KUL’s main campus in Lawrence holds more than 4.9 million titles (including 940,000 eBooks) in 4.7 million volumes. Over 1.5 million patrons visited KUL in FY 2015. In the same period, over 175,000 items were circulated and more than 1.9 million articles were downloaded. The total number of filled lending requests to other libraries was 31,746 items, and the total number of filled borrowing requests received from other libraries was 19,186 items.

KUL’s staff includes ninety-seven professionals (42%), seventy-seven supporting staff members (34%), and fifty-five FTE student assistants (24%). The library underwent a major organizational change in 2012 due to recent changes in publishing, scholarly communication, open access, and models of subject liaison and services. KUL continues to innovate learning for the university and engage local, national and international scholars through resources, expertise, and commitment.17)

The KU Faculty Senate, the Provost, and the Chancellor approved the implementation of an open access policy18) on April 30, 2009. The university became the first public institution in United States to adopt an open access policy. The policy was approved because “the faculty of the University of Kansas (KU) is committed to sharing the intellectual fruits of its research and scholarship as widely as possible and lowering barriers to its access.”19) According to the policy, faculty members are required to deposit scholarly works with KU ScholarWorks, the university’s open access repository.20) In 2011, the university signed the Berlin Declaration21) on “Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities”, and became a founding member of the Coalition of Open Access Policy Institutions (COAPI).22)
6. The KU East Asian Library

Although the university allocated funding to purchase sufficient and relevant East Asian materials in 1950, there were no library personnel to manage East Asian materials outside faculty-initiated materials selection. The East Asian Library (EAL) was not established until 1964. Karl Lo, the Exchange and Gifts Librarian, was hired in 1958 and became EAL’s first librarian. Since its establishment, the EAL Collection has been the largest in the Great Plains states and one of 18 designated National Resource Centers (2015–2018) libraries for East Asian studies.

![Image of the KU East Asian Library](image)

[Figure 8] KU East Asian Library Reference Reading Room and International Collections Department on the fifth floor of the Watson Library (East Wing).

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23) For the entire East Asian Collection history and details see Doll, V. (2010).
24) Administered by the U.S. Department of Education's International and Foreign Language Education (IFLE) Office, Title VI programs provide grants to U.S. institutions of higher education to build capacity in global studies and world languages. Title VI Centers serve as national resources for the study of specific world regions, language instruction, overseas research, and undergraduate instruction in international studies and foreign languages. [http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsnrc/index.html](http://www2.ed.gov/programs/iegpsnrc/index.html)
Art, music, and business subjects are housed in their respective libraries. About one-sixth of the EAL collection is in the Library Annex, a high-density storage facility, and can be retrieved within twenty-four hours at a user-designated circulation desk.


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25) Starting from 1989, the Journal of East Asian Libraries (JEAL) <http://scholarsarchive.byu.edu/jeal/> began annually publishing the Council on East Asian Library (CEAL) Statistics in its February issue. These statistics, considered to be the most detailed set of data on North American area studies collections, includes information about East Asian libraries and museum collections in North America, their services, staffing, and expenditures. In addition to JEAL’s annual publication of CEAL statistics, the chair of CEAL Statistics Committee created and has maintained the CEAL Statistics Database <http://ceal.lib.ku.edu/ceal/php/index.php> since 2000 at KUL. The online database includes statistics on North American East Asian libraries and museum collections back to 1957; and within that data set is statistical data back to 1869. A bibliography of most E. Asian collection statistics published since 1957 in North America is at <http://ceal.lib.ku.edu/ceal/PHP/STAT/citation.php>. Statistics dataset and reports can be accessed at <https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/10116>.
journal titles (3,770 print and 8,050 electronic); 13,200 other materials, among which are 2,000 items of films and DVDs; and more than thirty-five electronic databases that are exclusive to East Asian studies. Many of those databases have multiple subject modules aggregated with multiple subject databases. The collection also includes materials in Tibetan, Mongolian, and Uyghur. Approximately 3,500 volumes, including gifts and exchange items, are added to the EAL collection every year. Since 2000, EAL has subscribed to a majority of its serials in e-journal format. Monographs are purchased in both print and electronic format depending on the availability, usability, and sustainability of eBooks and suppliers. In addition, all EAL materials are accessible to users through the KUL website.

The East Asian collection’s strengths are pre-modern Chinese, Japanese, and Korean art history, history, literature, religion, and cultural studies. The major art history strengths include medieval Chinese, Japanese, and Korean paintings; traditional Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Buddhist art and culture; modern and contemporary Japan and Korea's visual arts, and an extensive collection of Edo period (1615–1868) paintings and ukiyo-e woodblock prints. The collection in Chinese and Japanese art history, history, and Buddhist studies are at level four (advanced research) of the North America Collection Inventory Project (NCIP), and in general East Asian studies are at NCIP level three (Reed-Scott, 1988).

For more than a decade, EAL's collection development priorities have been to add core electronic resources, including current and back files of periodical full-text, corpus text, and Korean studies electronic resources; update its reference collection, especially in electronic format; evaluate database subscriptions; review all print materials for storage; and cancel print periodicals if e-journal articles have been available in database subscriptions. Over the past ten years a new acquisition focus has been placed on Japanese animation; primary sources of archeological findings from early China; modern art history in China, Japan, and Korea; and Korean art history. These have been acquired

26) KU East Asian Studies Electronic Resources http://guides.lib.ku.edu/ea_e-resources
alongside the ongoing building of traditional strengths in order to support new faculty teaching and research needs. As one of the National Resource Center libraries, EAL offers travel grants\(^{27}\) for research at KU EAL to scholars at institutions with little or no East Asian language library resources.

### 6.1 The EAL Korean Studies Collection

#### 6.1.1 Scope

The EAL Korean Studies Collection began with the collection of classical and language dictionaries in the early 1960s, but ended in the 1970s when EAL's federal funding was reduced. However, EAL began to acquire limited amounts of Korean materials in 1996 to support a visiting scholar position that was funded by the Korea Foundation. The revived collection continued to grow slowly as the new EALC position became permanent in 2001. Subjects collected included reference works in the humanities and social sciences, language, literature, and cultural studies; art history, history and archaeology; political science and government policy; popular culture, religion, and education. The composition of the collection includes about 70% humanities, 20% social sciences, and 10% general and reference works. In addition, the EAL receives gift monographs from Korea Foundation and National Library of Korea programs and DVDs from the Korea Film Council's film archive that enhance the contemporary Korea collection. Multi-media resources have been collected since 1996.

#### 6.1.2 Strengths

The collection's strengths include art history (Chosŏn dynasty paintings, traditional Buddhist art, Korean art and culture), fourth to sixth century-era archaeological discoveries from along the China-North Korea border (many are North Korean publications),

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\(^{27}\) East Asian Library Travel Grants http://guides.lib.ku.edu/c.php?g=94980&p=618328
language and literature, folklore and religion. As a Title VI–funded National Resource Center library, pop culture DVDs, films, and children's books for K–12 teaching on Korea have been collected for regional students and educators.

6.1.3 Priorities

For the past decade, Korean collection at EAL has prioritized late Chosŏn dynasty art history, traditional Buddhist art and culture, ceramics, colonial visual art, and popular culture. Consequently, the Korean studies collection compliments Chinese Ming, and Qing dynasties, and the Japanese pre-modern period collections in art history, history, and religious studies. Although the Korean collection is comparatively smaller, it has grown to support the expanded Korean studies programs and the research demands of its students and faculty.

6.1.4 Assessment and Evaluation

In 2008, the Center invited a Korean collection consultant from the University of Washington, Hyokyoung Yi, to evaluate the effectiveness of the EAL Korean collection, determine whether it met the needs of its users, and identify aspects of the collection that could be improved. Among her extensive valuable input, Ms. Yi recommended that KUL purchase more linguistic and literary items, subscribe to electronic journal databases, update and add reference resources, and make retrospective purchases to fill certain gaps. Since then, the library has updated its reference collection, subscribed to several full-text journal and newspaper archive databases, and developed a more in-depth Korean art history collection to support teaching and research needs.

6.1.5 Size

As of June 2016, the Korean Collection includes 7,000 print volumes, 270 titles of films and DVDs, 130 print serial titles, and access to 4,900 e-journal titles and 4,500
eBooks, all in addition to a comprehensive English language collection on modern Korea. EAL acquires approximately 200 to 250 volumes per year, and receives approximately 100 to 200 gift items from institutions such as the National Library of Korea, the Korea Foundation’s BooksOnKorea program, the International Communication Foundation (ICF), and the Korean Film Archive, as well as in-kind donations. The table below shows the Korean collection’s volume holdings from 1990–2015. The average annual growth rate over the last twenty-five years is about eight percent (8%). From 2005 to 2015, the average additions per year were 350 volumes (a 7% growth rate). This is similar to the national trend of Korean collections within North American East Asian print collections, which has seen a growth rate (at 4.66%) higher than Chinese (3.59%) and Japanese (3.52%) language materials (Doll, 2016, p. 67).

![Korean Language Volumes Holding 1990-2015](http://ceal.lib.ku.edu/CEAL/php/)

[Figure 10] East Asian Library Korean Language Volume Holding, 1990–2015.

### 6.1.6 Electronic Resources

Several subscriptions to Korean and Korean/English language electronic resources have been subsidized by the Korea Foundation since 2010 through the “Collective Subscription of Korean e-resources Program” managed by the subcommittee of the Korean Studies e-resources of the Committee of Korean Materials of the Council on East Asian Libraries Committee. KUL’s state budget covers the remainder of e-resource costs. The Title VI
National Resource Center grant also supports some one-time database purchases. KUL provides access to a rapidly expanding collection of electronic resources, including DBpia, KRpia, the Korean Information Service System (KISS), KSI e-books, Research Information Service System (RISS), Yŏnhaengnok ch'ŏnggan ch'ungbop'an, Dong-A Ilbo Archive, and Chosun Ilbo Archive. From 2010 to 2015, KUL also subscribed to E-Korean Studies. Examination of database usage reveals that many Korean international students are users of Korean databases in addition to East Asian studies faculty and students. English language databases relevant for Korean studies are the Bibliography of Asian Studies, JSTOR, Cambridge Histories Online, Films on Demand, Google Scholar, ProQuest Dissertations & Theses, Project Muse, Foreign Broadcast Information Service Daily Reports, Lexis-Nexis Academic, NK News (North Korea News), and Access World News. There are abundant others for specific disciplines such as the Digital Dictionary of Buddhism, Factiva, MLA (Modern Language Association) International Bibliography, EconLit, and FIAF International Index to Film Periodicals Database, just to name a few. Students in Global and International Studies and many other schools and departments can use English language databases for their study and research on Korea without Korean language training.

6.1.7 Print Materials

EAL has a comprehensive collection of Western-language materials on Korea through a broad approval plan, which includes all major North American university press publications on Korea in the areas of humanities and social sciences. In addition to the approval plan, the EAL Korean Studies librarian also selects titles not included in the approval plan via slips selection. The Korean language collection is developed on a highly selective basis with primary sources to support academic programs and research needs. Since the beginning of the re-established Korean collection in 1996, KUL has been unable to afford to hire a Korean Studies librarian to support Korean collection development. The Chinese Studies librarian has managed the development of the Korean
Studies collection since 1996, and has attended several Korean studies librarians’ workshops and training sessions including one for overseas Korean studies librarians sponsored by the National Library of Korea in 2014.

6.2 East Asian Librarians and Library Administrative Organization

Two librarians, one specializing in Chinese and Korean studies and the other specializing in Japanese studies, support East Asian Studies education and research at the university and collaborate with faculty members. They provide research consultation services to students, faculty members, and visiting scholars either in person or online. East Asian librarians are also responsible for developing the East Asian collection, creating subject and/or course guides for specific classes, teaching library resource instruction courses and information literacy skills, conducting library tours, and coordinating outreach programs. A support staff is responsible for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language materials acquisition. Several student employees assist librarians with the preparation of instruction and outreach materials, and help library patrons at the area studies’ public service desk. The KU Libraries have centralized library technical processing since 2003 and an outsourcing decision was made for East Asian language materials cataloging. As a result, East Asian librarians were able to concentrate more of their time on other services. However, certain formats have not been included in the outsourcing contract, and reference or rush items have been processed locally by East Asian librarians. About 99% of East Asian materials are searchable via online access.28)

In 2007, EAL was absorbed into the International Area Studies department, now known as International Collections. The International Collections department consists of African, East Asian, European, Slavic and Eurasian, Spanish, Portuguese, Latin American and Caribbean, and Global, Middle Eastern, and South Asian studies at KUL. Following the library reorganization in 2012, International Collections, Special Collections, the Kansas

28) KU Libraries homepage https://lib.ku.edu/
Collection, the University Archives, and Conservation were combined to form the Distinctive Collections division. This division is directed by the Assistant Dean of Distinctive Collection (formerly the head of Special Collections). The reorganization committee recommended the consolidation because they recognized that "those units are similar in terms of collection building, public services, and technical services. Each unit relies upon library staff members who possess specialized language skills and/or subject knowledge. Quite often, librarians overseeing those collections also have a unique opportunity to support donor stewardship efforts through the relationships they build with potential donors."  

6.2.1 Challenges and Collection Strategies for Korean Studies Librarian

The most significant challenge facing the EAL Korean Studies Collection is the lack of budget allocated for Korean materials acquisition. Also, similarly due to a lack of funds, a full-time Korean librarian is not available for the KU EAL, as is the case for many other East Asian collections in North America. For example, CEAL 2015 survey statistics showed that although forty-nine institutions reported Korean print monograph additions by acquisition, at least eighteen of those institutions (or about one-third of reporting CEAL libraries) have professional librarians with more than one language area studies responsibility (CEAL Statistics Database, 2016). This commonly means that Japanese, Chinese, or East Asian studies librarians handle the Korean collection and they do not qualify for participation in some Korean librarian professional activities.

Faculty members have been generously recommending essential language purchases to the librarian. When prospective East Asian Studies faculty candidates participate in on-campus interviews, they have the opportunity to tour the library collection and meet librarians to discuss their research material needs and learn about library support for new

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Both faculty candidates and librarians find the initial meeting to be very helpful. The meeting allows librarians to learn about a candidate’s area of research, then compare his/her previous institution or alma mater’s library holdings to KUL’s holdings to determine whether there are important resources that KUL could add. The library takes into consideration new faculty hires and new research areas and makes the necessary accommodations. Librarians also support faculty teaching needs by comparing KUL holdings to the course syllabus reading materials of new faculty members and of prominent scholars in the same subject field to allow KUL to make necessary purchases.

To strengthen the EAL Korean collection and fill collection gaps, the librarian periodically checks WorldCat\(^\text{30}\) to examine the collections of other well-known institutions and searches by subject keywords to compile bibliographic records for purchase. One common phenomenon is that a high percentage of foreign language (including Korean) research books go out-of-print soon after they are published. Obtaining out-of-print books is a considerable challenge. Acquisition trips and good relations with print and electronic vendors are important for area studies librarians. For new publications, EAL selects materials, preferably primary sources, from special vendor catalogs (with some customized subjects and specialized publications), book reviews, and news from listserv emails. The librarian also annually exams EAL Interlibrary borrowing records to evaluate whether some titles or subjects need further attention. Instead of spending limited resources to cover a broad range for “just in case” purposes, the Interlibrary loan borrowing service allows EAL to ensure that the collection is thorough in its areas of strength. The librarian communicates with faculty and students via listserv lists about new database trials and database feedback to decide database subscriptions.

\(^{30}\) WorldCat (by OCLC–Online Computer Library Center, Inc.) http://www.oclc.org/worldcat.en.html; WorldCat.org is an open access catalog.
6.3 Collection Assessment

6.3.1 Resource Sharing

EAL annually assesses East Asian languages interlibrary loan borrowing and lending to examine users’ needs and understand the EAL collection’s regional and national impact. Figure 11 shows the number of East Asian items that KUL loaned to and borrowed from libraries in the United States from 2011 to 2015. In the past five years, total lending was 4,737 and borrowing was 3,602. Lending has been about 1.3 times borrowing.

![2011-2015 East Asian Library ILL/DD Lending and Borrowing](http://ceal.lib.ku.edu/CEAL/php/)

[Figure 11] 2011–2015 Interlibrary Loan and Document Delivery Lending and Borrowing for East Asian Language Materials.

Source: CEAL Statistics Database http://ceal.lib.ku.edu/CEAL/php/

The following Figure 12 shows the recent five-year total of 480 Korean language items borrowed, which is five times the 95 items loaned to other United States libraries. This shows an opposite ratio of borrowing and lending compared to EAL Chinese and Japanese language resource sharing. On one hand, it shows a great need to support growing programs (and verifies collection budget weakness), but on the other hand the EAL Korean collection is indeed able to meet some needs from other libraries.
KU users borrowed items in religion, history, art history, and literature. Figure 13 shows that loaned items’ subjects were mainly in history (DS), art history (Ns), literature and film (Ps) according to their Library of Congress Classification Numbers. A total of forty-nine libraries borrowed 95 items from KUL from 2012 to 2016. Excluding fourteen non-ARL libraries (one Australian library), the remaining thirty-five are members of the Association of Research Libraries, including seven of the top ten academic Korean collections in the U.S.\textsuperscript{31}

\textsuperscript{31} The top ten academic Korean monograph collections in 2015 were Harvard, Washington, Columbia, UC Berkeley, Chicago, Southern California, Hawaii, U.C. Los Angeles, Toronto and Stanford. (CEAL Statistics Database, 2016)
6.3.2 Citation Analysis

A special citation analysis study assessment project was conducted in 2014 by the KUL International Collections librarians in cooperation with librarians for assessment and resource sharing. The purpose of this study was to determine the extent to which KUL is able to support the research of faculty in international and area studies. Fourteen East Asian faculty were randomly selected. Their publications (dated from 2005 to 2013) consisted of 2,219 citations. English language materials cited made up 86%, while 14% were in East Asian languages. Those citations were checked against KUL holdings to determine what percentage of these cited works were available at KUL. Overall, KUL provided access to 89% of the English sources cited and 42% of the non-English language sources cited. This survey revealed the complexities of interdisciplinary publishing and how users' communities have made it challenging to evaluate collection strategies, which is important for libraries in making budget decisions.

6.3.3 WorldCat Collection Analysis

EAL used the WorldCat Collection Analysis (WCA) 32 in 2010 to assess its collection landscape. This study was useful for one-to-one comparison with peers. Among the many findings, one showed that graduate level art history research materials are among only five or six holdings in the U.S. About one-half of EAL holdings are found among 12 to 15 holdings in WorldCat. This reveals the EAL collection’s status and its importance due to its geographic location. EAL will have the opportunity to use the Worldshare Collection Evaluation33 in the near future for another collection assessment. Figure 14 is a snapshot made in 2010 of Korean collection by subject using WCA displaying title number by subject in collection. Art history, history, and language and literature are strengths within the collection.

32) OCLC WorldCat Collection Analysis https://www.minitex.umn.edu/Electronic/Analysis/
6.4 Rare Korean Collection

6.4.1 Avatamsaka Sutra, Vol. 45, approx. 1350

Rare East Asian language materials and works of art are housed in the Special Collections of the Kenneth Spencer Research Library, while modern print editions of rare items are available for circulation. One exquisite rare manuscript collected is Chapter 45 of the Avatamsaka Sutra. The frontispiece has a Chinese title of 大方廣佛華嚴經第四十五卷變相 Daebanggwang bul hwaeomgyeong (The Sutra of Garland Flower of Great Square and Broad World of Buddha). The Avatamsaka sutra is a mid-fourteenth century depiction of Siksananda’s Tang Dynasty-era (695–699) translation of volume forty-five of the Avatamsaka sutra manuscript (Kim, 2003, p. 127). The frontispiece is especially valuable, using a mixture of gold and silver powders with animal glue to write texts, designs, and illustrations of scenes from Buddhist scripture on mulberry paper dyed
indigo blue for preservation. Most Koryŏ illuminated manuscripts were produced in a rectangular, accordion-fold format that facilitated easy reading and long-term usage. In the 1956–57 academic year, the university acquired the manuscript from Richard Rudolph. From October 2003 to January 2004, the manuscript was featured in “Goryeo Dynasty: Korea’s Age of Enlightenment, 918 to 1392” an exhibit hosted by the Asian Art Museum in San Francisco and co-sponsored by the National Museum of Korea and the Nara National Museum.34)

Source: Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas, MS D23

6.4.2 Chuja taejŏn sokchip vol. 3 (kwŏn 7-11)

• Special Collections, Kenneth Spencer Research Library, E436

Another rare collection is volume 3 of 朱子大全續集 (Chuja taejŏn sokchip: 11–kwŏn)

34) Goryeo Dynasty: Korea’s Age of Enlightenment, 918 to 1392 https://asianart.com/exhibitions/korea/index.html
by the neo-Confucian author Zhu Xi (朱熹 Zhu, Xi, 1130–1200), compiled by Yu Hŭi-ch’un (柳希春, 1513–1577). It was printed by Kyŏsŏgwan (校書館) in Hansŏng (漢城) using movable type (乙亥字 Urhaeja: 1580 补铸 poju). It has 10 rows to each leaf and 18 characters to each row. Each leaf frame measures 22.3 x 17.3 cm and the printed volume measures 34.2 x 21.5 cm. The KU volume’s woodblock descriptions match volume 59 held at the Harvard Yanching Library.35)

6.4.3 Korean Woodblock Boards

The Special Collections also houses two Korean woodblock boards donated to the EAL by a local Kansas resident in 2016. Both sides of each board feature engravings of Confucian works in Korean Hanja. There is an end piece on each side of both boards to prevent the boards from bending. The end pieces also list the book title, chapter, and page number to make shelving more convenient. The center of each board lists the book title, volume number and page number. One board, 龜窩先生續集 (Kuwa Sŏnsaeng sokchip) by 金埈 Koeng Kim (c. 1867), represents pages thirteen and fourteen of the third chapter. The other board, 拓菴先生文集 (Ch’ŏgam Sŏnsaeng munjip) by 金道和, (c. late 1800s), represents pages thirty-one and thirty-two of the seventh volume. Because most Korean Confucian printing woodblocks were made during the Chosŏn dynasty, the boards were possibly printed in Andong, North Gyeongsang-do Province36) where many Korean Confucian academies were located. The woodblocks, along with the Spencer Research Library’s collection of printing blocks, plates, and stones, have been used to teach print history.

35) Harvard Yanching library has volume 59 of Chuja taejŏn in digital collection https://iiiif-lib-harvard-edu.www2.lib.ku.edu/manifests/view/drs:9345238$1i. It is also similar to the Dongguk University Gyeongju Library’s collection call number: D152.416-주71유 v.70
[Figure 16] 龜窩先生續集Kuwa Sŏnsaeng sokchip Chapter 3, p. 13 original woodblock board, (c. 1867). Both sides have engraved characters, The board half–page has 10 rows, with 20 characters every row. The frame has double lines on four sides, The center of the board has black double fishtails, with title, volume number, and page number. The woodblock frame is 19.5 cm x 17 cm. Source: Kenneth Spencer Research Library, University of Kansas.

[Figure 17] 龜窩先生續集Kuwa Sŏnsaeng sokchip Chapter 3, p. 13. [Database] Source: https://iiif.lib.harvard.edu/manifests/view/drs:47324759$158i (left side page image) https://iiif.lib.harvard.edu/manifests/view/drs:47324759$159i (right side page image)
7. User-Centric Network Services

The primary role of the Korean studies librarian is to support the university’s teaching, learning, and research on Korea. In addition to building collections and providing instruction and reference services, research libraries are moving toward a national trend of changing of the traditional roles of liaisons as indicated by Jaguszewski and Williams (2013) with six new roles for liaison librarians. KUL’s 2012 reorganization adopted some of the trends described for liaison roles. In the 21st century, users of higher education collections and services in a local context can now easily be supported by national and global research services. For example, two virtual reference services for Korean studies have been of immense support for libraries that lack full-time Korean studies librarians. “Ask a Korean Studies Librarian” has been provided by members of the Korean Collections Consortium of North America. Users can send reference inquiries to askkorea@googlegroups.com for help. The other service is “Ask a Librarian for Librarians” provided by INKSLIB (International Network for Korean Studies Librarians), a program service by the National Library of Korea. Both services have been extremely useful to library users and independent scholars.

As institutions in higher education expand their missions to seek broader engagement with various stakeholders, academic librarians must seek opportunities to further engage with user communities, library consortiums, donors, etc. to share experience, knowledge, and resources, in order to reduce cost and create sustainable information resources (Gibson & Dixon, 2011). The changing research needs of users has affected academic librarians’ involvement in supporting research, which has included “digital humanities; expanding roles in support of teaching and learning; support for digital scholarship; user experience; copyright, intellectual property, and scholarly communication” (Jaguszewski

38) National Library of Korea. INKSLIB Ask a Librarian for Librarians http://inkslib.nl.go.kr/ask/askLibrarianList.jsp
and Williams, Trend 3, 2013). One local example is the establishment of the Center for East Asian Studies Community digital repository in KU ScholarWorks, initiated by the librarian, starting from 2006 to digitize the Center’s 1960s to 1980s publications. Since 2006, over 700 items have been included in the digital repository of the Center for East Asian Studies Community.39) Outreach work includes collaborating with the Center’s Outreach Director on teaching East Asian culture in local high schools. In recent years, East Asian librarians have been making videos for middle school students for broader outreach.40) Video interviews of East Asian scholars and specialists, a project to preserve East Asian experience through oral history, has been pursued since 2012.41)

8. Creation and Dissemination of New Knowledge

How can we measure a collection’s success? To partially answer this question, in spring 2012 the East Asian librarians provided an exhibition “Celebrating East Asian Studies Scholarship”42) in collaboration with East Asian studies faculty and the KU Libraries Exhibition Committee. The exhibition featured nine faculty members’ research projects, their publications, and the type of materials they used in their research process. In addition to the exhibition, there was an Open House43) accompanied by a panel discussion on East Asian studies scholarship. East Asian studies were promoted and the library collections were highlighted in this event which successfully displayed one of the

39) KU ScholarWorks Center for East Asian Studies Community: https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/1069
40) Example of online outreach videos: Furoshiki Tutorials (K-12 Instruction Series) https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLjZDWTEXFea5Q6wdh5qXd6uKrRG_PQdWP
41) Center for East Asian Studies Faculty Interviews Series: https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/1069. One interview example is Moos: An Anthropologist’s Asian Journeys https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/handle/1808/18600
42) Celebrating East Asian Studies Scholarship online exhibits can be seen at http://liblamp.vm.ku.edu/omeka/exhibits/show/east
end results of the collection: the creation and dissemination of new knowledge. Moreover, the librarians have also been collaborating with the Center for East Asian Studies Library Faculty Committee Chair to annually host the East Asian Studies Faculty Research Forum as well as the Graduate Student Research Forum. These research forums allow faculty and graduate students to share their research topics and new publications with peers and faculty members, and gain feedback from them in turn. Many students have appreciated the opportunity to present their research topics in this informal venue. From these presentations, the librarians have learned of new research directions and material needs.

9. Conclusion

With a limited budget for collection, the KU East Asian Library Korean collection has grown slowly, and it continues to face the many challenges that are common to the other 37 Korean holdings in North America with no full-time Korean Studies librarian (CEAL Statistics Database, 2016). Librarians will continue to share collection and service strategies to encourage each other to thrive in tough economic times that present opportunities for collective cooperation and collaboration among peer collections in North America.
References


Center for East Asian Studies website: http://ceas.ku.edu

East Asian Collection website: https://lib.ku.edu/east-asian-collection/about

East Asian Languages and Cultures website: http://ealc.ku.edu/


KU ScholarWorks, Center for East Asian Studies: https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/ handle/1808/1069

University of Kansas: http://ku.edu

University of Kansas Libraries: http://lib.ku.edu