

Report on the Subcommittee on LC-CEAL CJK Cataloging Internship Program 2011-2014

Yue Shu

Introduction of the program and the subcommittee:

June 11, 2011, Council on the East Asian Libraries (CEAL) and the Library of Congress (LC) signed an agreement for the development of a cataloging internship program to provide training opportunities to eligible individuals who may not have access to adequate cataloging training support in their own institutions, or to those who have been assigned to catalog materials in a language with which they are not entirely conversant. The interns selected will receive substantial training at the Library of Congress from their catalogers.

October, 2011, a LC-CEAL CJK Cataloging Internship Program Subcommittee was formed under Committee on Technical Processing (CTP) by the request of Shi Deng, Chair of CTP. The subcommittee consists of Yue Shu (Chair) of the Smithsonian Libraries, Yoko Kudo of University of California, Riverside and EunHee Nah of Harvard University, whom was replaced by Erica Soonyoung Chang of University of Hawaii at Manoa in 2012. Shi Deng is the ex-officio of the subcommittee and CEAL day to day liaison to communicate to the CEAL Executive Board and the community as well as LC.

Activity Summary

Here is a brief summary of the internship program during our tenure from 2011 to 2014.

Announcements for the program were sent to several listservs including eastlib-l, autocat-l, and pclist-l in three consecutive years from October, 2011-2013. It was also sent to 92 libraries with CJK collections in October 2012 and October 2013. The subcommittee successfully recruited 5 candidates and recommended four to the Library of Congress. Mr. Tom Yee, acting chief of Asian and Middle Eastern Division and Policy and Standards Division who was in charge of the program until the end of 2013, selected two interns, Ms. Chiaki Aita of University of Maryland for the 2012 program and Ms. Wei Wang of University of Virginia for the 2013 program. Due to visa issues, Ms. Aita had to abort the program at the very early stage of her internship. Ms. Wang finished her internship in June 2013 after four weeks of training. By the positive feedback from both Ms. Wang and the China Section at LC where her training took place, we believe the internship program was a praiseworthy endeavor that benefited the intern tremendously. We didn't have a qualified candidate to endorse for the 2014 program. Here we'd like to thank Hee-Sook Shin of Columbia University and CEAL treasurer and Hikaru Nakano of University of Florida and Chair of the CEAL Membership Committee for taking a great effort in compiling a master list of libraries with their primary contact information. This was an effort to promote our program to libraries that aren't typically represented by the CEAL members, like public libraries, think tanks and other academic institutes.

Recommendations:

- A short survey could be conducted to see how much need for this kind of training in our community;
- Submission of a written report from the intern should be added to the LC-CEAL agreement;
- The program at LC could expand to other sections for other media formats, not just textual materials;
- CEAL EB could raise the amount of cash award to ease the burdens on interns and their sponsoring libraries

Acknowledgement

We'd like to express our extreme gratitude for LC's efforts and professionalism to provide well thought-out cataloging training programs that tailored to interns' particular needs. We are deeply indebted to those LC professionals who helped our interns to become well-rounded catalogers at their workplaces. Without their dedications and hardworking, the program won't be a success!