**Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL)**

**Library Technology Committee Annual Report**

To: Executive Board, Council on East Asian Libraries

From: Rob Britt, Chair Library Technology Committee

# Date: March 20, 2009

The main developments in the past year are:

* Xian Wu of Cornell passes on the CLT Chair to Rob Britt (April 2008). Thanks Xian!
* Migrated CEAL Directory to Parcom Server (old server); The operation was successful. We continue to maintain the directory in its new home.
* Created FTP folders for each CEAL committee; Committees have migrated their files to the CEAL server
* The only CEAL files not on the Parcom server are Statistics and JEAL.
* Experimental Server Site for CEAL Directory
  + Started account on Pair Networks for a new experimental “Drupal” website for CEAL
  + Also installed a “CiviCRM” Drupal module to use for the CEAL membership directory. A membership directory is the main reason for the new Drupal site.
  + CLT members all helped to migrate records from the existing CEAL Directory to the new CiviCRM/Drupal site
  + While this went well, maintaining and implementing the site requires a relatively high level of technical knowledge
  + Also, the system seems very slow at times; To make it usable, it may be necessary to spend more per month for a faster connection.
  + It may be necessary for CEAL to hire a technical advisor to complete the installation and operation of this system

Conclusion

We hope to continue to work on the new experimental server website in the coming year. We will explore the idea of CEAL hiring a technical advisor, as the challenges of maintaining the Drupal site are difficult. Another option would be to end the experiment. However, this would force us to continue to use the existing CEAL Directory. There seems to be broad support in CEAL for an improved membership list. One of the best ways to facilitate a membership list is with a Drupal/CiviCRM system, such as our experimental system. There are challenges with the new system (see above). We will continue to work on this problem.