

Subject: Asian Studies collection development

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Dear Asian Studies Faculty Members:

I am writing to convey good news regarding the UCI Libraries' collection in Asian Studies. As the Asian Studies Librarian, I am assuming an expanded role in collection development. In addition to serving as the Bibliographer for the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (EALL), my responsibilities will now cover selection and acquisitions of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) vernacular-language materials for all subject areas including History, Art History and the Social Sciences. I will be working closely with other subject librarians, who will continue to acquire materials in English and other non-CJK languages in support of these programs.

EALL was established in 1989 and our East Asian Collection (EAC) was formed the following year. During our first ten years, we built a working reference collection and collected basic sources for East Asian studies. We were able to acquire literary anthologies, complete or select works of most major authors, as well as Chinese collectanea sets, Japanese taikai series, and Korean sillok documents. Our collection's foundation was strengthened by the following special acquisitions projects: Wang Chung-lu Collection of Chinese History, Ni Tseh Collection on Yijing Studies, Terashima Collection of Japanese Literature, Japan Foundation Collection (four grants received to support the various topical studies), Nak-chung Paik Collection of Korean Studies, and two collections of general interests, Chinese Daily News Collection, 1991 to 1999, and Noma Collection, an on-going project since 1993.

The EAC is now entering its second decade. With the creation of the campus Center for Asian Studies, we are entering a new phase of our collection activity. Our goal will be to develop well-rounded collections to support the curriculum and research needs of graduate students and meet the individual research and teaching needs of the faculty in the fields of humanities and social sciences. Our challenge will be to develop a high quality collection that is strong in both breadth and depth while balancing programmatic growth and state-wide economic constraints. I seek your support in our joint efforts to develop a comprehensive and cohesive library that addresses the interdisciplinary aspects of Asian Studies research.

If you would like to examine new book catalogues and fliers for possible purchase recommendations, I can set up a routing system among interested faculty members. Meanwhile, I welcome any purchase recommendations that you have for additions to the collection. I would also be happy to meet with you individually if you would like to discuss or have suggestions relating to our expanded collection development program.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,