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Cornell University Libraries Collaborate in China and Taiwan

By Xin Li

A global university requires a global library. Today's research libraries face an exciting era in which we play an important role in our parent institutions' global endeavors. Like many peer institutions, Cornell University Library ("Cornell" hereafter) has a long history of international collaboration. This article presents four examples of Cornell's current international initiatives.

Sharing Access to Content and Expertise

The internet revolutionized the discovery of resources, making faculty and researchers aware of valuable, yet sometimes unattainable, research materials. Establishing international, multi-institutional partnerships to satisfy researchers' desire to access these materials enhances the services and value of research libraries. The development of international partnerships also enables the sharing of expertise, an important aspect in the creation of a holistic and enhanced user experience. Cornell has established several



Cornell-Tsinghua Joint Digital Resources portal

different levels of sharing digital resources with international partners. These shared digital resources are created by libraries or through consortial projects. They are not commercially licensed resources.

We make reciprocal arrangements with our partners. We agree to make our collections available to each other's faculty and students as if they were our own. This is not as simple as it sounds. Although many of Cornell's digital collections are freely available to the world, not all of our partners' collections are

available in the same fashion. This is not necessarily due to copyright or license restrictions, in some cases local policies prohibit access by "outsiders." Certain resources were only available for a defined group of users, such as the affiliates, the members of a consortium, or those who contributed content to the digitization project. We were able to convince some partners to open the resources up to the world. In the few cases that partners maintained restricted access, we negotiated for Cornell-IP based access. Still, there are digital collections that
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Message from the Editors

This issue of *International Leads* features two articles about partnerships between university libraries in the U.S., China, and Taiwan, as well as information about global online professional development opportunities for librarians.

The feature article, authored by Xin Lee, describes Cornell University Library's collaboration with several libraries, including Tsinghua University Library on the Chinese mainland and with Taiwan University Library.

A second article, written by Megan Johnson, Allan Scherlen, and Xiaorong Shao, describes the exchange program between Fudan University Library and the University Libraries at Appalachian State University, 2009-2012. The exchange resulted in several scholarly publications and enhanced cultural awareness on both campuses.

Loida Garcia-Febo provides an overview of the collaboration

between IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning (CPDWL) and IFLA New Professionals (NPSIG), in partnership with the American Library Association, to provide both real-time and archived sessions spanning a wide variety of library related topics. The online sessions offer presentations by prominent information professionals from around the world.

This issue of *International Leads* wraps up with a call for proposals for poster sessions at ALA Annual Conference and an appeal to librarians to make donations to help rebuild libraries in the wake of the recent typhoon in the Philippines.

Safe travels for all of us attending ALA Midwinter in Philadelphia.

- *Beth Cramer and Kevin Murphy*

Call for Submission

Do you have news about...

International library activities? People in international librarianship? Upcoming international conferences? International partnerships between libraries?

Then why not submit it to *International Leads*? Send your news to intl.leads.irrt@gmail.com for consideration.

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are closed for users outside of the owning institution. In these cases, we negotiated special privileges that allow Cornell users to have on-campus access.

Indeed some libraries do make their collections freely available. But often they are buried deep in the website and the user would need Chinese language skills to use them. Few users, let alone U.S. users, know they exist. In such case, we jointly created portals to surface important collections. For examples of pulling digital content together, please see the portals we built with the Tsinghua University Library in Beijing (<http://ctdl.lib.tsinghua.edu.cn/frontpage/index.html>) and the National Taiwan University Library (<http://www.lib.ntu.edu.tw/cu-ntu/index.html>). Through the portal we built with Tsinghua, the Cornell users can access digital collections on the history of science and technology, the rare and special collections in Tsinghua, historical documents about Tsinghua, books by Tsinghua graduates, theses, dissertations, and the student publication, Tsinghua Weekly. Through the portal we built with the National Taiwan University (NTU), our users find digital resources such as the NTU Digital Taiwan-Related Archives Project and the Database of Taiwan Old Photos, plus information on programs and projects at premier research institutions.

International partnerships can extend to sharing expertise as well. We have launched a new program in August 2013 in support of the Cornell China and Asia-Pacific Studies (CAPS) seniors who spend their fall semester at the Peking University in Beijing. In the past, some Cornell students reported that they felt somewhat lost when conducting research at Peking University. Starting this semester, the subject experts of the Peking University Library will give the CAPS students a library tour upon arrival. They will also provide research support sessions customized for the CAPS students, focusing on the students' specific research areas. Our librarians will provide reciprocal support should the Peking University send its students to Cornell.

Partnership on Processing

Cornell established an innovative approval-plan and shelf-ready partnership in 2010. Over the past two years, we have purchased roughly 18 percent of our Chinese language acquisitions through the Hong Kong University Library and a Chinese book vendor in Beijing. The subjects covered are economics, fine arts, law, and we just added philosophy this year. The division of labor and a simplified illustration of workflow are as follows:

- Cornell developed a purchasing profile, cataloging requirements, and processing

specifications for Hong Kong University Library and the book vendor. The three parties jointly developed a workflow.

- Hong Kong University Library selects monographs published in China that fit Cornell's purchasing profile. It sends title information to the vendor in Beijing.

- The vendor searches the selected titles in Cornell's online catalog, eliminating those that Cornell already has. It orders the remaining books for Cornell and informs Hong Kong University Library of the final titles that are being purchased.

- Because Hong Kong University Library itself purchases the majority of the Chinese books bought by Cornell, it is able to catalog our books "with book-in-hand," although Cornell's books never travel physically to Hong Kong during the process.

- Hong Kong sends full-level cataloging records to Cornell on a monthly basis. It also sends call numbers to the vendor. The vendor processes the books for shelf-ready and ships them to Cornell.

- Cornell staff utilizes locally developed programming scripts to link the books received from China with the cataloging records from Hong Kong. There are physical processing issues to resolve

such as placement of call number labels, but overall, the experience has been positive.

Staff Exchange

Cornell and the Tsinghua University Library in Beijing are official sister libraries. Each year, we exchange one or two library staff. The exchange visits last between one to two months. The university libraries ask the exchange staff to give a public presentation during their stay. Depending on the topic, Cornell may also promote the presentation to appropriate departments on campus. Tsinghua often promotes the presentations to other nearby research libraries.

One challenge of the exchange is the language barrier. Language is a bigger hurdle for Cornell's exchange staff going to China than those coming to Cornell. We have observed that more and more Chinese librarians can proficiently communicate with our staff. They can thus better understand the information we share; they can freely roam around our libraries, ask questions, test services, and communicate with staff.

In contrast, our staff are dependent on translators or Tsinghua librarians who act as translators, who may or may not be familiar with our staff's particular area of interest. This undoubtedly limits the exchange experience. Ironically, our language hurdle will be lowered over time as more of our Chinese colleagues speak English better since it is unlikely that our staff will be proficient in

Chinese language.

Library Updates between Partners

We began exchanging staff newsletters with the Tsinghua University Libraries on a semi-annual basis two years ago. The two objectives are to keep each other more informed of developments at our respective libraries and to spot collaborative opportunities sooner.

This year, we changed to a topic-based approach. For instance, the most recent issue from Tsinghua discussed a library game they developed to train students' library skills, such as how book numbers work in the stacks. In return, Cornell described what research data management services we provide and how we provide them.

Development of international partnerships is a team sport.

Different staff play different roles at different stages of collaboration. First and foremost, the library administration needs to make international collaboration a priority. The liaison and subject librarians play a critical role in identifying research needs. Curators and other knowledgeable library staff serve as connectors who bridge the needs of the partner with available resources and expertise. Only when this team works together can the library create a holistic operation that supports the growing global research agenda of the institution.

For additional Cornell Library international initiatives, please see:

<http://www.library.cornell.edu/aboutus/partners/Global%20Engagement>



Tsinghua exchange librarian presenting at Cornell University Library.

Message from the IRRT Chair

We have ended a calendar year but are only half way through the IRRT year. Much more awaits us, particularly the American Library Association Mid-Winter Meeting in Philadelphia in late January 2014 and the ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas at the end of June 2014.

IRRT and its members will be well represented at these events. We will participate in committee work, plan and present programs, social events, orientations, and represent our round table by participating as representatives and liaisons to other ALA units.

If you are a member leader serving as an officer or committee member for 2013-2014, you have already been hard at work at preliminary planning. Much of your work will be presented in Philadelphia and, following the all-committees meeting and the Executive Board meeting, we should be well on our way to presenting an exciting, informative, and enjoyable schedule of events in Las Vegas. A sincere thank you to all of you.

If you are not currently part of our member leader group and would like to join us in planning future programs, an on-line application form can be found on the IRRT section of the ALA website. You may also contact

our appointing officer, Robin Kear, chair-elect of the round table. Her contact information is provided in this newsletter.

If you plan to attend the mid-winter meeting, you are welcome to sit in on the all-committees meeting on Saturday, January 25. The IRRT all-subcommittees meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Marriott Hotel, Franklin, 11 and 12. This is an excellent way to meet other IRRT members and to learn more about the work of our round tables and committees.

Best wishes to you for a healthy, productive, and happy 2014. I look forward to meeting many of you in Philadelphia or next summer in Las Vegas.

Carol Ritzen Kem, Ph.D.
IRRT Chair, 2013-2014

Message from the IRRT Chair-Elect

I am so excited to serve as your chair-elect for this year and as your chair next year. As your chair-elect, my main administrative duty is to complete 2014-16 appointments for committees. Current chair Carol Kem has left me in good shape with robust committees from her year as chair-elect.

Thank you to those that have completed the volunteer form this fall. I should have the appointment emails sent out soon. I have just returned from

maternity leave and am getting back into the swing of things.

Without your enthusiasm and hard work, we wouldn't be able to offer all that we do for international attendees at conferences. Without your expertise and open hearts, we wouldn't have all of our exciting connections and projects. Thank you!

If you have any ideas about moving IRRT forward in the next few years, please let me know @ rlk25@pitt.edu. If you see me in Philadelphia during Midwinter, please stop and say hello. I am always open to catching up and hearing any thoughts about IRRT.

Robin Kear
IRRT Chair-Elect

Fudan and Appalachian Library Exchange Program: 2009 to 2012

By Megan Johnson, Allan Scherlen, and Xiaorong Shao

In May 2008, representatives from Appalachian State Library's Belk Library and Information Commons traveled to Shanghai, China to meet with Fudan University Library to finalize the Fudan-Appalachian Library Exchange Program (FALEP). This program was created to provide library faculty with an international perspective and supports Appalachian's Internationalization Strategic Plan to increase global research and faculty development activities.

The Appalachian State University librarians that participated in the 2008 trip included University Librarian Mary Reichel, Xiaorong Shao, Beth Cramer, and Allan Scherlen. Dr. Shao was hired as a Faculty Fellows Librarian in 2006 and she takes a lead role in international outreach in the library and across campus.

The FALEP exchange officially began in the fall semester of 2009. Appalachian and Fudan each served as host for librarians from the partner institution. Fudan University librarians were in residence at Belk Library from three to five months, while Appalachian librarians were in residence at Fudan Libraries for four to six weeks. Each institution paid for their own librarians' airfare travel and passport costs while the host institutions provided housing and a monthly



Weihua Shi, Megan Johnson, and Zhang Jing, Deputy Director of East China Normal University

living stipend.

Three Appalachian librarians participated in the exchange between 2009 and 2012: Megan Johnson (E-Learning and Outreach Librarian), Allan Scherlen (Social Sciences Librarian), and Leslie Farison (Business Librarian). Exchange librarians from Fudan were Weihua Shi (Associate Director of Dean's Office for Fudan University Library System), Xuan Xu (Reference and Instruction Librarian), and Weihua Cheng (E-learning librarian).

Cultural Exchange

All six librarians who participated in the exchange learned many things directly related to library services, but equally important, all six learned about cultural differences. Participants returned to their home institutions with a deeper understanding of the other country's culture, and the experience enabled them to serve

with enriched social sensitivity and a more global perspective.

All three Chinese librarians improved their already excellent English language abilities, and the three Appalachian librarians took courses in Mandarin. At Appalachian, more Chinese international students and faculty feel welcomed and comfortable in the library with multiple librarians taking an active interest in Chinese language and culture. The presence of a visiting librarian from Fudan at Belk Library served to bring a global connection to Appalachian librarians who do not have the opportunity to travel to China. All six librarians returned to their home campus with ideas on how to change or improve not only service to international students, but to all patrons.

Participants in the exchange discovered that there are strengths and weaknesses in both Chinese and Western libraries and were able to absorb best practices from their exchange partners.

Scholarship

A primary success of FALEP is the amount of scholarship generated in partnership between the two universities. Five articles co-authored by the exchange librarians at both institutions have been published during the recent years. Research topics include comparative librarianship, the benefits of international exchanges for university libraries, students' opinions about Chinese and U.S. academic library services for international students and scholars, and international partnership between U.S. and Chinese serials librarians.

Professional Development

During the residencies of the visiting librarians, the host universities offered numerous opportunities for professional development. In China, Appalachian librarians met extensively with members of various library departments and toured a number of neighboring university libraries, including Jiaotong University Library, East China Normal University Library, Tongji University Library, as well as four libraries of the Fudan University. The Fudan exchange librarians visited several University of North Carolina System libraries, and attended



Reference librarians and Allan Scherlen at the Library of Liberal Arts of Handan Campus, Fudan University.

various professional conferences in the U.S. Each exchange librarian gave presentations on their areas of expertise while they were in the host library. The topics included library service models, library instructional programs, demand driven acquisitions, and library public relations.

Ongoing Outcomes

Fudan University and Appalachian State University have an existing 14-year relationship, known as the William R. Holland Fellows for Business Study. Each year, 12 Appalachian State University students and 12 Fudan students analyze business groups through a semester-long class. Fudan students travel to the United States for two weeks in April and Appalachian students visit China during May. Many business faculty members at both

institutions have benefited by leading these student exchanges. Two of the U.S. librarian exchanges took place when the Appalachian students were in Shanghai, and FALEP was a great enrichment of this relationship.

Conclusions

Despite the fact that Fudan is a much larger research institution than Appalachian State, the exchange confirmed common goals and practices shared by academic libraries to support the curricula and research of their faculty and students that transcend institutional size and geographic location. The exchange confirmed the hope that librarians from different sides of the globe can share professional and personal bonds that in turn make them better librarians.

Global Online Programs Offer Professional Development Opportunities

By **Loida Garcia-Febo**

IFLA Continuing Professional Development and Workplace Learning (CPDWL) and IFLA New Professionals (NPSIG), in partnership with the American Library Association, are providing new opportunities for membership participation in global online professional development programming.

For the second consecutive year, they presented a series of free quarterly webinars on issues of interest to librarians. In 2012, the webinars welcomed over 850 registrants and in 2013, thousands are believed to have benefitted from the information provided. Anyone may join in, ask questions, and participate in conversations with international colleagues.

One may also listen to the archived recordings, anywhere and at any time, by visiting the NPSIG blog and its links: <http://npsig.wordpress.com/webinars/>

As in 2012, the 2013 keynote speakers for the quarterly sessions came from different regions of the world. Among them were IFLA President, Sinikka Sipilä, the Director of the National Library of Singapore and former President of the Library Association of Singapore; Gene Tan, Director of the ALA Office for Intellectual Freedom; and the Chair of IFLA's Copyright and Legal Matters Committee and Chief

Librarian at the University of Toronto Scarborough, Victoria Owen.

Topics such as games in libraries, intergenerational librarianship, continuing education for solo librarians, study tours, and libraries as cultural houses were presented by librarians Heikki Marjomaa from Finland, Susan Riedel from Germany, Eva Hornung from Ireland, and Olaf Eigenbrodt from Germany.

International librarianship was popular. Moreno Barros from the University of Rio de Janeiro discussed future librarians from a Brazilian perspective. IRRT Vice-Chair/ Chair Elect, Robin Kear, spoke about strategizing international careers, and Kate Byrne from Australia and coordinator of the recently launched International Network

of Librarians spoke about helping librarians to develop international connections. You can visit their website at:

<http://ilnetwork.wordpress.com/about/coordinator-information/whos-who/>

The hour long free webinars follow a quarterly schedule with dates in January, April, July and October. **The next session is set for Tuesday, January 14, 2014.** Follow IFLA CPDWL and IFLA NPSIG on Facebook and Twitter, and read their blogs on the IFLA website <http://blogs.ifla.org/cpdwl/>, and on Wordpress <http://npsig.wordpress.com/webinars/>.

For more information contact Loida Garcia-Febo, Series Coordinator at loidagarciafebo@gmail.com



Many Philippino public and school libraries were decimated by the recent typhoon there. The photo above is what remains of the Eastern Samar State University library. ALA has established a webpage for donations @ <http://www.ala.org/offices/philippines-library-relief>

Call for Proposals for ALA Poster Sessions

The ALA International Relations Round Table (IRRT) International Poster Sessions Committee invites you to submit poster session proposals on international themes for the upcoming ALA Annual Conference.

Share your best ideas and work with the national library community by presenting a poster session at the 2014 ALA Annual Conference in Las Vegas!

Start your application process now at <http://ala14.ala.org/how-to-submit-a-poster-session>. You must create a username and password for the site before you submit your application. You must choose to submit a poster session proposal after you log-in, and you will receive a confirmation e-mail after you have completed your submission.

The deadline for submission of 2014 ALA Annual Conference poster session proposals is January 18, 2014.

The poster session committee encourages submissions from all types of libraries and on any topic relevant to librarianship. Submissions may include a description of an innovative library program, an analysis of a solution to a problem, a

report of a research study, or any other presentation benefiting the wider library community.

Poster session participants place materials such as pictures, data, graphs, diagrams and narrative text on boards that are usually four by eight feet. During their assigned one and a half hour time periods, participants informally discuss their presentations with conference attendees.

Titles/abstracts from previous years are available on ALA Connect: <http://connect.ala.org/node/210160> Note that this site is only serving as an archive for previous Annual Conference poster sessions. For information on this year's posters, go to: <http://ala14.ala.org/poster-sessions>).

The deadline for submitting an application is January 17, 2014. Applicants will be notified in March, prior to the early bird registration deadline and after a double blind peer review process, whether their submission has been accepted for presentation.

The 2014 ALA Annual Poster Sessions will be held June 28 and 29, 2014 -- the Saturday and Sunday of the conference -- at

the Las Vegas Convention Center.

Questions about poster session presentations and submissions may be directed to:

Melanie Griffin, Chair of the ALA Poster Session Committee, griffinm@usf.edu

Or

Candace Benefiel, Chair of the ALA Poster Session Review Panel, cbenefie@lib-gw.tamu.edu

Additional questions regarding international poster sessions can be directed to:

Deana Groves, Co-Chair of the IRRT International Poster Session Committee, deana.groves@wku.edu

Or

Jennifer Snoek-Brown, Co-Chair of the IRRT International Poster Session Committee, jennifer.snoek-brown@mhcc.edu

To view a gallery of international poster sessions from last year's ALA Annual Conference, go to: <http://www.ala.org/irrt/irrtcommittees/irrtpostersession/postersession>.