GMA MEMBERS ATTENDED NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATION IN WASHINGTON DC

On Sept 29th, 2015, CALA GMA members Anlin Yang, Xudong Jin and Hong Wu attended the Reception celebrating the 66th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China in Chinese Embassy in Washington DC.

Ambassador Cui Tiankai delivered the keynote speech in which he praised the profound social transformation brought by the founding of People’s Republic of China. “China has emerged from desperate poverty to become the second largest economy of the world. China’s development has not only improved the livelihood of the Chinese people, but also provided tremendous opportunities to the world,” said Cui. He also briefed the audience on the recent state visit to the United States by President Xi Jinping. He declared the visit had achieved its targeted goal of enhancing mutual trust.

Under Secretary State for Management Patrick F. Kennedy congratulated on behalf of the US government. He emphasized that the collaboration between China and U.S. and an improved bilateral relationship will benefit the people of China, the U.S. and the world.

More than 600 guests attended the celebration. Distinguished guests include Eric L. Hirschhorn, Under Secretary of Commerce, and Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund. GMA members took the opportunity to network and enjoy the delicious Chinese cuisine.

GMA MEMBER ANDREW LEE PRESENTED AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

GMA Past President Andrew Lee attended the “Sixth International Conference of Institutes & Libraries for Chinese Overseas Studies” in Xiamen, China from Oct. 15-17. Andrew presented a paper coauthored with Zhimin Chen: “Chinese Soldiers in the U.S. Civil War: A Literature Review.”

The international conference, which was held by Huqiao University, Xiamen University and Ohio University, is not only to provide a platform for scholars to interact and exchange ideas with librarians/archivists and collectors, but also to provide an opportunity for examining issues in collection development and resource sharing. The 6th conference took place in Xiamen, where both Huqiao University and Xiamen University are located. Xiamen is a beautiful coastal city in southeast China, and is also the hometown of a large population of overseas Chinese who currently reside in Southeast Asia. Huqiao University and Xiamen University both have a long tradition of research and collection-building on Chinese Overseas Studies and both also hold strong programs on Overseas Chinese studies.
The 2015-2016 CALA Midwest Executive Committee’s first virtual meeting took place on October 19th, 2015. All Committee members including Fu Zhuo, Vincci Kwong, Sharon Hu, Yan He, Shuyong Jiang, Mingyan Li, Wen-Ling Liu, Jianying Shou and Lijun Xue were in attendance. President Zhuo opened the meeting by welcoming the new members on board and thanking the previous committee for their great contributions and services. A special thank-you card was presented to Sharon Hu, the Midwest Chapter past president, for her outstanding service. Sharon has recently retired and is planning to move to California.

The following five agenda items were discussed at the meeting with consensuses reached for some issues and others open for further discussion.

1. Frequency of the Executive Committee meetings was discussed, and the decision was made to have bimonthly meetings. The next meeting is planned for December 2015.

2. Date and location for the Chapter’s annual conference in May 2016 was discussed. A number of suggestions and concerns were expressed by the participants. Two possible dates are considered: May 13 (Friday) and May 20 (Friday). It will be a hybrid event, which means that an onsite live conference will be run concurrently with virtual components for members who cannot attend the meeting in person. It was agreed that a meeting place and a date will be finalized at the next meeting in December, given the space availability, cost involved, and transportation to the venue. The Professional Development Committee (PDC) will set up a timeline for working on a conference theme, call for proposals, keynote speaker, acceptance letters, and program arrangement. PDC will work jointly with the Web Committee to post the information on the web and make the official announcement to the public.

3. President Zhuo proposed an action plan from each committee to be submitted before the next meeting in December. A template will be distributed to each committee beforehand for the action items to be filled in accordingly.

4. Due to Lisa Zhao’s serious illness, a past president of Midwest Chapter, an initiation of setting up the guidelines for caring activities for members becomes necessary. Various caring activities were discussed at the meeting such as sending flowers and/or cards to members who are suffering traumas like serious illness or natural disasters, who are giving birth or those having membership anniversaries of 5, 10, or 15 years. As CALA Midwest Chapter is a professional organization, the members agreed to give case by case consideration to the activities discussed.

5. Midwest Chapter Annual Election will take place in April, 2016. The call for nomination will be sent out on March 1st, 2016. The Nomination Committee will work with Membership Committee to arrange for call for nominations to ensure a qualified pool of candidates, and for the purposes of monitoring the elections. The meeting was concluded by President Zhuo’s call for contributions to Lisa Zhao’s fund. He thanked Vickie Doll, a veteran member of the Midwest Chapter, for her efforts on setting up the fund for Lisa at a fundraising website “GoFundMe” at https://www.gofundme.com/9m5funf. The site has raised almost 50% of the set up goal for assisting Lisa so far.

Please donate to the fund to help Lisa and her family to cover the costs of medication, homecare, and other associated expenses. Let us continue to pray for her.
KACHUEN CAROL GEE GAVE LECTURE ON YUAN SHIKAI AND THE YUAN FAMILY

By Jia Mi

New York Public Library and CALA Northeast Chapter co-sponsored the lecture "Early Life of Yuan Shikai and Formation of the Yuan Family" (少年袁世凯与袁氏家族) presented by Kachuene Carol Gee on November 21 at New York Public Library Chatham Square Branch. This lecture addressed the early life of President Yuan before his rise to political eminence, the family formation during and after Yuan's time, and the lives of some of his more prominent children. Kachuene Yuan Gee is the granddaughter of President Yuan and a daughter of Yuan Shikai’s eighth son, Yuan kezhen. She discussed the facts about her grandfather's personal life and Yuan Shikai's many contributions to Chinese governance. Although she grew up in Hong Kong, in order to search her family root, she traveled to many places in China and gathered valuable information. The lecture also revealed the information gathered from her trip. Her research about Yuan's family is in the process of publishing. The lecture drew an audience of over 30 people. Among them, the founder of Chinese American Librarians Association, Dr. Tze-chung Li and his wife Dorothy Li came to the lecture from Chicago. Many attendees felt this was the best opportunity to have such a scholar for a lecture.

LIBRARIANS FROM CHINA SPEAKING AT THE MONTANA ACADEMIC LIBRARIES SYMPOSIUM

Two Chinese librarians, Dr. Xiaoye Li, Director and Professor from Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (SUFE), and Mr. Henry Yu Huang, Acquisitions Librarian and General Secretary of International Exchanges at Shanghai University of Finance and Economics Library, were invited to speak at the 2015 Montana Academic Libraries Symposium, with the theme of “Libraries’ Role in Global Education.” The symposium was held at the University of Montana in May 2015, and its site is at: http://www.lib.umt.edu/2015-montana-academic-libraries-symposium. Director Li presented a keynote session on “Role Definition and Career Development of Future Academic Librarians.” Mr. Huang's presentation focused on “Acquiring International Experiences from Librarian Exchange Programs.” Three other international speakers from Belgium, Canada, and Mexico were also invited to this first-ever international library gathering in Montana.

(Caption of upper left picture: Director Xiaoye Li gives a keynote speech at the 2015 Montana Academic Libraries Symposium held at the University of Montana)

(Caption of lower left picture: Dr. Shali Zhang accompanies the speakers to visit the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Visitor Center)

(Caption of upper right picture: University of Montana’s Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs Perry Brown meets with the Director Xiaoye Li and Mr. Henry Huang)
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

SHALI ZHANG VISITED NUMEROUS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES IN CHINA

Dr. Shali Zhang, Dean of Libraries and Professor at the University of Montana, participated in the University of Montana Academic Officers’ Delegation to China, in November 2015, for educational programs, research collaborations, and other partnership endeavour. In Beijing, the Delegation was hosted by the Chinese People’s Institute of Foreign Affairs which has had long relations with the University of Montana. The Delegation was also invited to a reception held at the residence of the U.S. Ambassador to the P.R. China Max Baucus and his wife Melodee Hanes. Ambassador Baucus was a long-term representative from Montana to U.S. Congress. Upon his retirement from the Congress, he chose the University Montana’s Mansfield Library to house his political papers, in print and digital formats, with a fund of $850,000 for processing his papers. The School of Law at the University of Montana is also chosen as the site for the future Baucus Institute. Through the trip with the University of Montana’s delegation to numerous universities in Beijing, Nanning, and Shanghai, Dr. Shali Zhang took the opportunities to visit the libraries at these institutions and to discuss collaborative projects among the libraries. (Caption of left pictures, from the top down: Dr. Shali Zhang meets with Professor Zhang Qiwei, Library Director, and Professor Li Xiaojuan, Party Secretary, at the Beijing Normal University Library; Shali Zhang with Dr. Zhang Jianwen, Library Director, and the library’s management team at the Beijing University of Chemical Technology University Library; Caption of right pictures, from the top down: Dr. Shali Zhang with Professor Xu Shangjin, Library Director, and the other library administrators, at the Guangxi University Library. The Guangxi University Library welcomed Dr. Shali Zhang)

SHANGHAI TO ORLANDO:
A VISITING LIBRARIAN’S EXPERIENCE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

In December 2014, Jing Xu, a subject librarian from Tongji University (TJU) Library in Shanghai, was invited by Mary Page, the Associate Director for Collections & Technical Services at the University of Central Florida (UCF) Libraries for one year as a visiting librarian.

At her home library, Jing is responsible for five colleges on disciplinary services, including: Providing customized subject services in different forms and depth; establishing the resources guarantee system based on the needs of the departments; giving subject consultation services and participating in scholarly communications. Her duties also include information literacy education, disciplinary assessment, literature review and citation and impact analysis. Unlike most visiting librarian programs which are either short-term or project-based, Jing will participate in training and hands-on practices in several functional areas in the hosting library for an entire year. She is required to submit relevant research reports to her home institution upon the completion of the visit.

Jing expressed her interests in several areas prior to her arrival. However, without knowing much of either library for both parties, it was difficult to lay out a well-organized plan. After her arrival, Mary recruited two UCF librarians in coordinating Jing’s visiting program: Ying Zhang and Sai Deng. They are selected because of their fluency in Chinese language and their extensive experience and knowledge of the academic libraries in the U.S. Ying, the Interim Head of the Department of Acquisitions & Collection Services, oversees all acquisitions and collections functions at the UCF Libraries. In addition to managing the entire UCF Libraries materials budget and the Acquisition Department, Ying also engages in public services including reference and information literacy. Sai the Metadata Librarian and also an Associate Librarian, creates and enhances metadata for the universities’ digital collections, and performs authority control for collections in the library’s content management systems. Sai has also been an active member for the library’s scholarly communication task force. Ying and Sai are able to provide guidance and assistance for Jing in their specialized areas in English and Chinese. The language connection along with strong knowledge from both sides make the team perfect for this visiting librarian program. (Continue on the next page)
The three of them started with an environmental scan in comparing the two universities, two libraries and various areas within the libraries. Founded in 1907 by German government together with German physicians, TJU is among the premier universities in China, particularly in the fields of Civil Engineering and Architecture. It is located within the city limit of Shanghai, the most populous city in China. Started as a Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) focused university, TJU now is a full spectrum university offering bachelor, master and doctoral degrees in all disciplines. Although more than a hundred years have passed, TJU retained its more Western education system which differs from many of its peer institutes in China. In comparison, the much younger UCF, founded in 1963, grew out of its technology focused mission and became the second largest university in the US awarding degrees from bachelors, master’s to doctoral in all disciplines except law. The rapid growing UCF has a mutual influence to the development in the metropolitan Orlando, Florida area in the US.

Both universities have a Full-time equivalent (FTE) of approximately 38,000 students. Because of the similar customer size, the two library systems also have many similarities. TJU has four major libraries and forty-one college and department libraries spread across four campuses. In comparison, UCF has a centralized library and twelve branch and regional libraries. Having longer history helps TJU Library establish a much larger print collection. UCF Libraries, on the other hand, has its electronic resources grow exponentially in recent years and become its collection focus.

As academic libraries serving large universities, both libraries align closely in their essential services, function areas and collection goals. However, each has its unique organizational structure and reporting lines, which in result largely predetermines the various workflows and functions in both libraries. The environmental scan has laid out comparisons in the collection focuses and service emphases in all areas. The studied components include: administration, collection & technical services, special collections and university archives, theses and dissertations collection, government documents, digital collections, exhibits, information services & outreach, institutional repository and technology services. Each library has strengths in many areas and could learn from the other system. This comparative study has built a knowledge base for the two sides to understand each other better and learn from each other.

Besides conversations among Ying, Jing and Sai, a critical component of the environmental scan was first-hand practice for Jing and extended exchanges between Jing and UCF Libraries librarians in several areas. Jing first worked in Cataloging providing metadata for digital objects in the library’s content management systems. She and the Metadata Librarian discussed several topics such as research lifecycle and services, data curation and services, and building institutional repositories for potential future collaboration. Jing gave two presentations at the UCF Libraries faculty meetings. The first presentation was "Better service, Better library", which introduces TJU Library and its services. The second one was: "New service trends in TJUL", which focused on recent innovations in services at TJU Library. Both were well received and generated quite some interest and discussions. Likewise, she participated in works and meetings in the Acquisition & Collections department. She was also invited by the Research and Information Services to give a talk on subject and information services at TJU Library and was given a list of questions to answer in her talk. Librarians at UCF expressed interest in collaborating with TJU librarians such as working on some research topics and addressing them in the international library conferences held in Shanghai.

This experience has proven to be a rewarding one for both the visiting librarian and the hosting librarians: it provides mutual benefits to both libraries and promotes global librarianship. The visiting librarian program has bridged the gap between library services for the two academic libraries, and it fosters future collaborations on projects and programs.

(Caption of pictures, from top to down: Jing is pictured in front of her poster with co-authors Ying Zhang and Sai Deng and another UCF Librarian Min Tong; Jing introduces Tongji University Library and its services to the UCF Librarians; Jing is pictured in front of her poster with Mary Page, Associate Director, Collections & Technical Services and Frank Allen, Sr. Associate Director at UCF Libraries; Left to right: Sai, Mary, Ying and Jing in a more relaxed setting)