CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS
2016 CALA Midwest Annual Conference
Innovate! Advocate! Integrate! Reinvigorating Your Library in a Digital Age

Submitted by Yan He on behalf of CALA MW Chapter Executive Board

On Friday, May 13, 2015, the 2016 CALA Midwest Annual Conference was held at the Indiana University South Bend. The conference adopted a hybrid format, both onsite and online, to facilitate the member participation. A total of twenty CALA members joined the conference, including three library school students and two visiting scholars from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and eleven presentations were delivered, on-site and virtually. The presentations were well received and the participants were engaged in active discussions and exchanged ideas on a wide variety of library topics.

The conference featured the keynote speaker Miguel Figueroa, who is the Director of the Center for the Future of Libraries (www.al.org/libraryofthefuture), a new initiative from the American Library Association that works to identify trends relevant to libraries and the communities they serve. Miguel has previously held positions at the American Theological Library Association; the American Library Association’s Office for Diversity and Office for Literacy and Outreach Services; New York University’s Ehrman Medical Library; and Neal-Schuman Publishers. Miguel presented on the trends and signals for the library of future and aimed to help the audience find a productive role in building libraries of the future. The breakout sessions covered innovative ideas in a wide array of library services including research and reference, instruction, outreach, career, and technical service. Below are brief notes on those presentations.

Fu Zhou, Learning and Research Librarian from the University of Missouri-Kansas City, presented on a new “academic literature suite” Docear that can help researchers search, organize, and create academic literature. Fu introduced its general concept and special features and jump-started the learning for those who are interested. Kate William, Associate Professor from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, presented on measuring and conceptualizing the little free library movement and led a discussion on what the globe profession can learn from this surging movement.

Wen-ling Liu, Librarian for East Asian and Tibetan Studies from the Indiana University, and Jian Anna Xiong, Government Information Librarian from Southern Illinois University, shared an analysis report of 2014 CALA self-assessment survey and many of the findings can serve as a valuable reference for future strategic planning and for carrying out CALA’s long term goals. Mingyan Li, Resource Access Librarian and Clinical Assistant Professor from the University of Illinois at Chicago, presented on how to use OPAC search box builder to create and customize your own search box to serve specific group of audience or specific information needs. This approach will improve the accuracy and efficiency of information retrieval especially for libraries with large collection of various formats of materials.

(Continue on Page 46)
2016 CALA Midwest Annual Conference
Innovate! Advocate! Integrate! Reinvigorating Your Library in a Digital Age

Qi Chen, Library Director from the Calumet College of St. Joseph talked about how to define your own dream job and make your dream come true. The presentation focused on how to search for your ideal job and put together an attractive resume and cover letter. She also discussed interview skills both online, by phone and in person. As a seasoned library director, Qi has a rich experience in hiring. Those strategies and skills are very helpful and practical for library professionals to land new dream jobs.

Yan He, Information Literacy Librarian from the Indiana University Kokomo, shared her faculty-librarian collaboration experience on designing flipped information literacy sessions with the assessment model. The two flipped sessions on reading and finding primary literature were proved to enhance students’ learning experience.

Minhao Jiang, Software Development Librarian from the Wayne State University, explored TensorFlow and its implications to libraries. He provided introduction and demonstration on TensorFlow and explained how it can potentially benefit existing library systems.

Thomas Burns, Learning and Research Librarian from the University of Missouri Kansas City, reviewed the research and conversation on help-seeking in the academic library in the digital age. He also discussed strategies to encourage and facilitate the help seeking.

Vincci Kwong, Head of Library Web Services and Associate Librarian from the Indiana University South Bend, presented the “turning outward” approach and discussed the steps on how to use this approach to engage community through conversations and how to create conditions for change and sustainability.

Gary Browning, Lead Security Analyst from the Indiana University, provided a brief introduction about information security and what role we all have in keeping information safe.

Fu Zhuo, the president of CALA Midwest Chapter, wrapped up the conference by acknowledging the conference planners. We would like to thank all the presenters and attendees for joining us for the 2016 CALA Midwest Annual Conference and sharing innovative ideas. We appreciate the hospitality of our local host, Indiana University South Bend, for providing the conference room and catering service. Special thanks to Vicky Bloom, Dean of the Indiana University South Bend Library, who gave a warm welcome speech to conference attendees and showed her support for CALA and the conference, and Vincci coordinated all the local arrangements plus the virtual conference set-up to make sure that the conference run smoothly. We also appreciate the hard work of the professional development committee on deciding on the conference theme, inviting the keynote speaker, reviewing the conference proposals, creating the conference program, and marketing the conference to the CALA community. It is noteworthy to mention that Lijun Xue (co-chair of Professional Development Committee) made persistent effort on inviting the keynote speaker and the featured keynote presentation turned out to fit perfectly into our conference theme and received very positive feedback from the audience. We also appreciate the support from the CALA Midwest Executive Board, especially Fu Zhou, who provided much great specific advice on the conference planning.

Last but not least, we thank Shuyong Jiang for her diligent fund raising effort and we are truly grateful for Wanfang Data’s generous financial support for our conference.
CALA MW Chapter Life Member Ning Zou Wins ALA Election

by Fu Zhuo

ALA Election Office just released its 2016 annual election results. Ms. Ning Zou, Instruction Coordinator at Rebecca Crown Library of Dominican University, won Vice-President/President-Elect (For three-year term) in LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE SECTION. Her results showed that she won 99% of votes and clearly was the choice of other librarians in her field. Ms. Zou joined CALA in 2003 and she’s currently a life member in the MW chapter. She has been very active in serving CALA Midwest Chapter as well as on the national CALA committees. She is also a frequent presenter in professional conferences. Please join us from MW Chapter to congratulate her for her winning of Vice-President/President-Elect in LIBRARY INSTRUCTION ROUND TABLE SECTION in the 2016 ALA Election.

The CALA MW Chapter Celebrate the Chinese New Year at Dr. Tze-chung Li’s Home

Reported by Shuyong Jiang, CALA MW Public Relation Committee

The CALA Midwest Chapter had a holiday gathering on Feb. 13, 2016 at Dr. Tze-Chung Li’s home in Chicago. A group of five UIUC GSLIS students and some Chapter members from the Chicago area got together to celebrate the Chinese New Year. Mrs. Li ordered Chinese food for the group.

The group had a pleasant time at Dr. Li’s home. Bathed in bright sunshine, we enjoyed the delicious food, the great view of Chicago and the Lake Michigan, but mostly a good conversation with two of the most respected members of CALA.
NCA Chapter’s Spring Activity
Hualing Wan

CALA NCA Chapter visited San Francisco Chinatown on April 30, 2016. We had 17 people attend. The tour started at the Chinese Historical Society of America (CHSA). The building was originally a Chinatown YWCA designed by Julia Morgan (1872-1957), an architect who integrated Chinese motifs with the framework of western architecture. CHSA is the oldest and largest archive and history center documenting the Chinese American experience in the United States. After a delicious dim sum lunch break at the Saint Mary’s Square park, we headed to the Pacific Heritage Museum. The Museum is housed in the historic US Subtreasury Building, dating from 1875 and built on the site of the first US Branch Mint. The building is recognized as a historical landmark by both the state of California and the city of San Francisco. In 1984 the building was restored in order to house the Pacific Heritage Museum. The Museum celebrates the heritage and achievements of the people living along the Pacific Rim. We saw a replica of a bank vault used during the buildings operation as a part of the Treasury Department. There is also a display of a collection of 40 years silver coins.

After that we went to the Chinese Culture Center of San Francisco. The Center has a gallery, book shop, classroom and offices. It was established in 1965 to foster the understanding and appreciation of Chinese and Chinese American art, history, and culture in the United States. At the gallery we saw a documentary showing the life of early Chinese immigrants and a couple interesting modern Chinese artworks.

We also stopped by the Fortune Cookie Factory. The Factory opened on August 5, 1962 and remains one of the only places you can still find handmade fortune cookies in the country. There were 2 women placing fortunes in the hot cookies, then folding the cookies before they harden. You get a sample when you go in and the cookie is still warm, couldn’t be fresher.

Lastly we visited the San Francisco Cable Car Museum. It contains historical and explanatory exhibits on the San Francisco cable car system. The museum is part of the complex that also houses the cable car power house, which drives the cable cars. It is fascinating to see how the cable cars are operated. The museum is regarded as a working museum.

The tour ended with everyone learning something from the past. It was truly an educational and informational visit.
CALA Southeast and CALA Southwest Chapters’ joint online conference to be Held in June

Provided by Xiaojie Duan, CALA SE Chapter President, and Xiaoyu Duan, CALA SW Chapter President

The CALA Southeast and Southwest Chapters joint online conference will be held on **June 13th, 2016**. Currently we are calling for speakers to present at the conference. The online platform will be Anymeeting.

The topic of the joint conference is "New library technologies, practices and impacts". Possible topics include:

1) How library technologies impact the workflows of library faculties and staff;
2) “Old” library technologies that are used in creative ways;
3) Library technologies that improve user experiences and benefit served communities;
4) Library technologies that enhance the discovery of library resources (such as e-resource);
5) Library technologies that offer better approaches and solutions in managing data such as storing, migrating and preserving of data.

The online conference will be open to the CALA community and anyone who’s interested in joining it. More information has been sent to the CALA listserv, website and CALA’s Facebook page.
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION
The 2015 Chinese Library Annual Conference
by Qian Zeng

December 16—17, 2015, the Chinese Library Annual Conference was held at the Guangzhou Baiyun International Convention Center, hosting more than 2800 practitioners in the library profession from the U.S., Germany, South Korea, Russia, Hong Kong, Macao and Mainland China. Some special guests include: Mr. Yang Zhijin, Vice Minister of Culture in PRC, Mr. Sheng Haixiong, the Deputy Head of Publicity Department of the CPC Guangdong Province Committee, and Mr. Chen Jianhua, Mayor of Guangzhou, and Ms. Donna Scheeder, President of the IFLA (International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions), Mr. Kwack Dong Chul, President of South Korean Library Association, Ms. Barbara Schleihage, president of Germany Library Association and Ms. LianRuan, president of CALA (Chinese American Librarians Association).

Mr. Chen Jianhua, Mayor of Guangzhou, who focuses specially on the library construction and progress as a critical part of municipality, presented a speech entitled “Library Vocation, Converging Social Motivation”. Mr. Chen told the audience, for the first time, that a 30,000-40,000 square meter Tech Library will be set up in the most expensive CBD shopping area, Tai GuHui, and that a total of 5,000,000 books will be added to the Guangzhou Library in 2016, with 2,000,000 books categorized as technological and scientific books and the allocated fund for buying the books be estimated as more than 10 million yuan. “As far as a city is concerned, the libraries are not just a cultural symbol of the city, but represent the mental power and spiritual identity”, said Mr. Chen.

The theme for this year’s conference is “Library: Push for Social Progress”. There are four symposiums and 21 panel meetings at the conference, with the topics ranging from information technology's impact on libraries, legal issues of public libraries, kids' reading promotion, antique copy protection, modern technology and others, all concerning the critical issues facing libraries in present-day China. CALA hosted a panel meeting, featuring “Function of Libraries in Social Progress: Latest Trends of American University Libraries and Public Libraries”, lending insight into the new development of University Libraries and the creative service of the public libraries in the U.S.

(Continue on page 52)
The 2015 Chinese Library Annual Conference

And as the host of the conference, Guangzhou Library co-hosted an “After Conference” with the Library Society of China, and the “After Conference” served as an international academic conference, with the theme as “the Public Library Architecture and Function as Social Public Space”. The directors from Los Angeles Public Library, Seattle Central Public library, the Mayakovskiy Central City Public Library of St. Petersburg, Public Information Library of France Pompidou and the National Library of Singapore were invited to the discussion of the public libraries’ architectural building and its functions. This is a sign that public libraries from mainland China are now coming to the agreement that forging the social public space is one of the main functions of public libraries.

The opening ceremony of the conference starts with the theatrical performance of Chinese classics The Book of Songs (《诗经·小雅·鹿鸣》), and the speeches and talks are connected by several theatrical shows with traditional Chinese cultural glamor and Southern China touch. The conference featured 10 Most Beautiful Grassroots Libraries and 10 Pioneer Librarians, and held an award ceremony for the institutions and persons. At the night of December 16th, Guangzhou Library prepared a party called “Night at Library”, with a view to communication and sharing, and also organized an artistic show with poem reading, modern dance and orchestra for all the conference, artistically taking use of the spatial design of Guangzhou Library to create a multi-dimensional experience of the mental journey as related to books and arts. At that time, at that location, right under the dome of Guangzhou Library, the artists and the audience co-built a novel and interesting sovereignty of culture. The people present could feel the subtly changed and new relationship between people and the environment, readers and the books, readers and reading and, who knows, might even find new relationships between people. It is the purpose of the organizers that the beauty of the library and the beauty of reading could be found and fully embraced.

At the concluding ceremony, Mr. Wu Jianzhong, Director of Shanghai Library delivered a speech on “Seeing Now from Future: the Next Ten Years of Libraries (2015-2025)”. Mr. Wu proposed that libraries of 2025 will be the centers for knowledge, learning and communication, and also the enablers of social, economic and cultural development which forms a closer tie with the whole society.
Jiangxi Provincial Public Library Expands Its Digital Presence

Lianglei Qi

The Jiangxi Provincial Public Library, located at the capital city of Nanchang, is the largest public library of Jiangxi Province. Additionally, it is my mother library and spiritual home. Having not visited for a long time since I went overseas to study my Master of Library Science (MLS) in 1999, I noticed that the library has experienced digital transformations over the past 15 years. Racing with the Information Age of the 21st century, the library not only offers physical library services, but also virtual library services. The library has a parallel medium of “Jiangxi Digital Library” in comparison with “Jiangxi Provincial Public Library” listed on its home webpage.

Having had the chance to visit my family and serve as the “Summer Librarian” for 3 months in the summer of 2014 for my local library, this short visiting service greatly sharpened and deepened my understanding of those cutting edge tools and popular services the library initiated to its local community patrons, scholarly groups, international and national visitors as well as senior and youth residents, etc. And without any doubt, those innovative and diversified services have strongly impacted and influenced people's reading habits, human-computer interactions, information-seeking behaviors, data analytics, mind settings, world points of views, etc. Here I briefly elaborate a couple of digital highlights the library has implemented.

DIGITAL LIBRARY EXPERIENCE CENTER

As a result of the “Digital Library Promotion Project” allocated by the Chinese Central Government, 12 major public libraries scattered across the whole Jiangxi Province within the Jiangxi Public Library System were granted this special project fund. All of those 12 libraries have already finished the equipment acquisition, installation and adjustment; they have already connected to the Digital Library National Center and other levels of web nodes. Patrons from those 12 libraries can directly access as much as 120TB digital resources shared with the China National Library from various multimedia terminals. (Continue on page 54)
Jiangxi Provincial Public Library Expands Its Digital Presence

Along with this digital library promotion activity, Jiangxi Provincial Public Library especially established and opened a “Digital Library Experience Center” aiming to educate patrons to understand the construction of the National Digital Library, to operate multimedia terminals and to immerse themselves into multimedia presentations. This center also seeks to educate patrons on utilizing its local and national digital library services, including, but not limited to the following: experiencing the television library, the mobile reading platform, the children’s digital libraries, the digital libraries with disabilities, the Library for the Blind, the Chinese government public information services platform, etc. By doing so, the library increases patrons’ reading interests and pursues “national reading” promotion.

DIGITAL NAVIGATORS AND ONLINE OPAC

Inspired by emerging and wireless technologies, the library decided to adopt the ideas of self-help and automatic machine-help services. Six large touch-screen self-help machine navigators were set up at the hallway as well as side entries to the library. Eight computers were set up at the front gate of the main entry connected to Gigabyte wireless internet spread around the whole library area and ready to serve patrons. Wireless smart phones and tablets are encouraged inside of the library and patrons can scan two-dimensional codes from those touch screen navigators and be able to download thousands of digital books including Chinese and multi-language collections at any time. Navigators also offer voice prompts which can help patrons to find the right library locations, persons, departments and even the collections. Finally, patrons can access the local online catalog (OPAC) and databases as well as the online databases through those navigators by utilizing virtual keyboards popped up on the touch screen.

SELF-CIRCULATION AND LIBRARY CARD VENDING MACHINES

To meet the national and international automation trends, and to improve the efficiency of utilizing the library collections to reach the high library turn-over rates, two library card vending machines and four self-circulating machines were put into use and set up at the front hallway of the main gate of the library. The circulation department was canceled, the circulation librarian and staff were merged into the social science collections department as well as the natural science collections department. (Continue on page 55)
Jiangxi Provincial Public Library Expands Its Digital Presence

CUTTING EDGE LIBRARY SERVICES
Multimedia and cutting edge technologies are widely spreading across all departments of the library. High speed WI-FI covers the whole and even beyond the library region. Patrons are encouraged to bring their own mobile devices, or to utilize library’s equipment; Patrons can surf the Internet individually, or can work on assignments as a team. Over 300 computers were installed into each library department including the main computer room which is opened to all library users. Touch screen full-text electronic journal readers/devices are ready for patrons at the periodical reading room. LED TEXT Banners with 3D projectors as well as large LED LCD TVs offer 180 degree angle panoramic views for PowerPoint presentations and videos inside of the public presentation/lecture room. The children’s reading room was designed and renovated with new book shelves and the most recently updated reading materials along with touch screen electronic children’s reading devices. 24-hour self-help circulating kiosks can be reached at the main streets of the whole city.

MY LIBRARY PRESENTATIONS IN 2008 AND 2011

By invitation of the Library Association of Jiangxi Province, an open academic seminar on “Introduction to US Library Systems” was offered and presented by me in the summer of 2008 at the Jiangxi Provincial Public Library public presentation/lecture room. Hundreds of peer librarians from local and sister library associations as well as library patrons/users attended my seminar, asked numerous challenging and interesting questions and offered me tremendous valuable feedback, all of which helped me a lot in my later library professional work. In the summer of 2011, I made another public academic seminar on “Introduction to Digital Library,” which initiated an active discussion on library digitization at our local library system and community.

SUMMARY
In recent years, the INTERNET and computer technologies have already strongly impacted the development of librarianship. All libraries within the Jiangxi Public Library System are in the process of migrating from the “Service-based” to the “Technology-based” library pattern and now are able to offer both printed collections and digital resources. Digital library infrastructure has been established and is able to accommodate more electronic devices and patrons. This will enable the libraries to develop more advanced digital collections and services in the coming years. The library’s goal for the next 10 years will be investing more human, capital and technology resources to build up an “Intelligent Library” environment; to perfect the WeChat library, mobile library service platforms, etc.; to form a distributed digital library service network which is resourceful, fast-serviced, technology advanced, stable and reliable; and, ultimately, to benefit all community members, residents, users, patrons and visitors.
Every Chinese Child Ready to Read
The State of Private Children’s Libraries in China

John Jablonski

In November of 2015, I attended the China Shanghai International Book Fair (http://www.ccbookfair.com/) as part of a continuing project to observe and assist children’s libraries operating as private businesses in China. I first learned of these libraries in 2011, and have subsequently visited more than twenty of these ‘picture book houses’ (绘本館) in five major cities, interviewing owners and parents about their motivations and strategies.

At the book fair Li Na, the owner of Shanghai’s 小小笔记 (which she translates as "Tiny Sweet Kids Library"), and I presented an overview of the phenomenon aimed at encouraging publishers to reach out to this entrepreneurial community. As so many things in China do, these children’s libraries have grown rapidly. First observed in 2006, by 2013 a map shows 1,700 private children’s libraries across the whole country (http://www.shuguanhui.com/hbgmap.asp). There are a number of different business models. Some libraries are subsidized by parent businesses (Beijing’s Baby Cube and Nanchang’s Century Library), while others are parts of chains or franchises. Most, however, are owned and operated by individuals.

Librarians and their employees tend to be self-conscious of their programming abilities, and frequently request advice on how to inspire young readers, choose age-appropriate books (especially for English language learning), and keep parents and kids engaged with the library. Many struggle with limited revenue sources and ask for business advice that I cannot give.

Parents express frustration at China’s rigid school system (and its high stakes high school and college entrance exams) while simultaneously asking how to best give their children a head start with learning characters and English. Not only have I observed disagreements over how to parent, I have seen individuals struggle with their own conflicted feelings about pushing their children to be competitive while at the same time trying to give them room to be creative, playful, and well adjusted. Many libraries have parenting materials on hand or mothers’ book clubs. One operation in Beijing has shifted its focus to teaching parenting seminars. The picture book libraries are an exciting microcosm of the contemporary Chinese middle class urban experience. I greatly appreciate the openness that the librarians and parents have shown to me the past several years and hope that this industry continues to develop, organize, and seek increased contact with the global library community. More information about this work is available at www.readingeverywhere.org.

(Jon Jablonski is a member of CALA’s Southern California Chapter and is Spatial Data Librarian at the University of California Santa Barbara.)