Contents

President’s Message

CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019

Members' Reports

Chapter Highlights

Interviews and Features

Acknowledgement

Highlights

PLA and ACRL Presidents Interviews

Northern and Southern California Chapters First Joint Virtual Meeting

2019 CALA Northeast Chapter Spring Conference at Princeton University

Embedded “City’s Study” Reading Hubs in Residential Community: An Innovative Service Model of Public Libraries

CALA Newsletter (ISSN: 0736-8887) is the official publication of the Chinese American Librarians Association. It is published twice a year in spring and fall.

URL: http://cala-web.org/newsletter

President: Ying Zhang, ying.zhang@ucf.edu
Vice President/President Elect: Fu Zhuo, zhuof@umkc.edu
Executive Director: Lian Ruan, lruan@illinois.edu

CALA Newsletter Editorial Team

Co-Editor: Ray Pun, raypun101@gmail.com
Co-Editor: Yingqi Tang, tang@jsu.edu
Layout Editor: Xiaoyu Duan, zhizhe13@gmail.com
Layout Editor: Xiying Mi, mixiyaying@gmail.com

https://cala-web.org/newsletter
Dear CALA members,

Happy Spring!

Looking back, the past eleven months has been a journey of a lifetime for me. I had the opportunity to appoint 23 committees and subcommittees; and worked closely with the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors whom you had elected. The Board and each Committee and Subcommittee have worked so diligently on their assigned tasks. It was their work that makes CALA running smoothly.

I am grateful to take over the President’s position during a time of healthy growth for CALA in legal and financial terms, thanks to the current and past leadership teams. And we continue to seek for updated guidance and learn from within our organization and from external governmental, legal and financial experts.

CALA is a professional organization by the members and for the members. Fostering professional communication and assisting professional endeavor have been among the top priorities of CALA. I am delighted that this year more travel awards were granted to support members attending conferences. The discussions on CALA’s social media channels have more spontaneous and livelier. Scholarship and awards are given out to members on their endeavor of research, study and services. Per members’ requests, additional gatherings have been inserted to the ALA Midwinter and Annual programs. There is nothing to replace the face to face interactions.

Membership continues to rise, under the tireless work from CALA officers and committees, particularly the Membership Committees and the Web Committees, and the word of mouth from you all. The new membership portal built by the Web Committee streamlines the membership lookup and renewal.

CALA is also more diverse now. Members range from first generation immigrant to native born, from ethnic Chinese to all races, from North America, to Asia and Europe. In October Canada Chapter was founded through member petition and Board approval as the 8th chapter for CALA, truly marking a new chapter for CALA.

Guided by the Strategic Plan 2020, CALA has made great efforts toward strengthening its impact in the profession by outreaching and building alliances in the U.S. and globally.
President's Message (Continued)

As one of the five ethnic caucuses affiliated with ALA, CALA represents a strong voice and mission in promoting diversity. In September, CALA jointly held the 3rd Joint Conference of Librarians of Color (JCLC) with the other four caucuses. It was four years in planning, thanks to members such as Lian Ruan and Qi Chen for serving on the Steering Committee and Dora Ho on the Board of JCLC, that led to a smashing success. Of course, the work must continue as CALA prepares to continue the momentum and plan for the 4th JCLC in 2022.

Shortly after Midwinter ALA in Seattle, WA in January, CALA joined the online meeting initiated by the ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo with AILA, APALA, BCALA, REFORMA and JCLC to set a plan to strengthen communication amongst the group. A successful webinar was held in late April, as a result, to share information, events and planning among all the leaders of the Ethnic Affiliates. And many thanks to Fu for putting together a presentation.

Global collaboration has also been a leading goal for CALA. Members from the continents of North America and Asia have continued been actively engaged and facilitated professional networking and development, both online via email and social network and in person. This year, CALA was instrumental in organizing the 6th North America China Library Conference held in Dublin, OH, where library leaders from the U.S., China and Canada convened and shared visions on future collaborations on preserving digital resources. CALA members from the U.S. and China served as key speakers and the simultaneous interpreters. At the 2018 IFLA WLIC in Malaysia, CALA contributed to both the U.S. and Chinese caucuses. And several CALA members spoke at the The 9th Shanghai International Library Forum (SILF 2018) in October 2018. The 9th Yunnan Sino-US Library Practice Forum is scheduled to be held in July 2019 in Chuxiong.

Lastly, the Conference Program Planning Committee and the Local Arrangement Committee have put together a fabulous Annual Program in DC June 21 – 23, 2019 and Preconference at Johns Hopkins University on June 20, 2019. Details are posted on the CALA's Website. Please bookmark the page for updates!

Charge on, CALA colleagues! I hope to see many of you in DC next month and celebrate another fabulous year and many more for CALA.

Sincerely,

Ying Zhang

2018-19 President
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019

2019 CALA Programs and Events

June 21, Friday
Board Meeting III (2018-2019)
Time: 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Location: Capital Hilton, Lincoln Executive Room
Address: 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036

Social and Networking
Time: 9:00 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Location: Capital Hilton, Truman President Suite
Address: 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036

June 22, Saturday
Annual Program: “Embracing Diversity Through Multiple Lenses”
Time: 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
Location: Capital Hilton, Senate Room
Address: 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036

2019 Posters Session:
Showcase of CALA Members’ Achievements
Time: 2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Location: Capital Hilton, Senate Room
Address: 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036

June 23, Sunday
Board Meeting I (2019-2020)
Officers Training
Time: 10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Location: Capital Hilton, Truman President Suite
Address: 1001 16th St NW, Washington, DC 20036
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019 (Continued)

2019 CALA Annual Program

Speaker 1: Rita Jimenez/ Neighborhood Libraries Director Multnomah County Library

Since 2004 Rita Jimenez has worked as a Neighborhood Libraries Director at Multnomah County Library, as well as leading the nationally recognized We Speak your Language services to immigrants and refugees. Before moving to Oregon, Rita worked at the Peace Corps as the South America Desk Officer. She started her career at the Library of Congress as a reference specialist. Rita received her M.L.S. from the University of Arizona and a B.A. in Spanish from Bryn Mawr College. In her spare time she loves swimming, gardening, and spending time with her family.

Speaker 2: Andrea Malone/ Associate Librarian and Coordinator of Research Services University of Houston

Andrea Malone is an Associate Librarian and Coordinator of Research Services. Her subject specialties are foreign languages and ethnic studies. Her professional and research interests include research services, digital humanities, international librarianship, diversity & inclusion and mentoring. She was the inaugural chair of the University of Houston Libraries' Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (CODI), which successfully created new diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives and programs within the organization.

Speaker 3: Peter Zhou/ Director and Assistant University Librarian University of California, Berkeley

Peter Zhou is the Assistant University Librarian and Director of the C. V. Starr East Asian Library at the University of California, Berkeley. An author or editor of many scholarly books and numerous articles, and a leading or editor of many scholarly books and numerous articles, and a leading expert in the field of East Asian librarianship, Dr. Zhou has written and spoken widely on library management, digital humanities, Chinese historical texts, and global information services. Dr. Zhou holds a PhD in Linguistics and an MS in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He is the editor of Collecting Asia: East Asian Libraries in North America, 1886-2018.

Speaker 4: Frank Xu/ Manager of Languages and Literature Division Brooklyn Public Library

Frank Xu started his career of librarianship in Brooklyn Public Library in 1993 and he really likes his job of providing the public service, especially the service to help the new immigrants who desperately need to use the library resources. Other than working in the library Frank Xu is also fond of education and teaching in Brooklyn College.

Speaker 5: Sheue-Fang Song/Library Dean Tamkang University Library

Since the 1998 academic year, Dr. Song Sheue-fang has been applying her expertise in helping the libraries of elementary schools in Tamsui Town. In the 1999 academic year, Dr. Song opened related courses of library services, including “Library Service Practices” and “Library for Children,” and led her junior students to practice serving in local elementary and junior high schools. So far, more than 200 classes of local schools have been benefited by their services. Dr. Song believes that practicing services and helping people make what they have learned meaningful.
2019 CALA Posters

ALA Annual 2019 CALA Programs and Events
Poster Sessions: Showcase of CALA Members’ Achievements
2:30 pm-3:30 pm, Saturday, June 22
Capital Hilton, Senate Room, 1001 16th St NW, Washington DC, 20036

· Think Like an Assessor by Ning Zou

The poster visualizes the key steps in applying Backward Design to the development of HGSE’s pre-matriculation library research competency online learning modules. It particularly zooms into stage 2 of the framework on determining acceptable evidence. It illustrates how to approach learning design as an “assessor” in Wiggins and McTighe’s UbD*, and how to craft collected assessment through multiple assessment methods that are needed to document and measure the learner’s level of performance at various learning stops as well as validate whether the designed learning is achieved. Practical advice and examples are provided.

· How China Helped to Shape American Culture: The Founding Fathers and Chinese Civilization by Dave Wang

This poster will provide insight into Chinese cultural contribution to the United States. The impact of Chinese culture on cultural, economical and political development of North America was evident. For instance, Confucius, who has been regarded as the very emblem of Chinese civilization, was very influential in colonial North America. Some eminent colonists, including Benjamin Franklin (1706-1790), Thomas Jefferson (1743-1826), Thomas Paine (1737-1809), John Bartram (1699-1777), and Jedidiah Morse (1761-1826), the pioneer of American geography, expressed their respecting for Confucius and his moral philosophy.

· Research in Bibliography of Innovative Conscious by Jiuming Ji, Mengmeng Dou and Ian Li

There should be bridges between libraries and readers to help readers get their favorite and effective for their self-efficiencies. Objects: Do popular science reading have effects on inspiring undergraduate students’ innovative conscious? Method and Procedure: call on 30 freshmen and junior volunteer students from our university, select randomly 50 popular science books from our library collections, test their innovative conscious score, students read their favorite books and take part in the seminar course and submit their formal reading report, test their innovative conscious score again, compare the figures and set a survey. Outcome: first book list of popular science books would have effectiveness of innovative conscious.
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019 (Continued)

· You May Also Like: Machine-Learning Algorithms for Collection Recommendations by Jingshan Xiao and Wenli Gao

Traditional collection development relies heavily on human input, with librarians relying on reviews and subject selection lists, and through user requests. With the development of machine learning, more and more businesses seek automated methods to deliver results relevant to users. The Recommender system, a subclass of information filtering that seeks to predict the "rating" or "preference" of a user, is among the most successful systems of machine learning in action. It has been adopted by many major e-commerce businesses such as Amazon, Netflix, and Expedia, and has been widely implemented to predict product and media recommendations, making it a key factor in increasing product average order value and the number of items per order. Drawing inspiration from the benefits of a recommender system to business and its success in heightening the reliability of recommendations, we attempted to build optimal collection recommendations with machine-learning algorithms using Python. The purpose of this project is to help librarians make collection decisions using the recommender system, and we will illustrate several examples that will appeal to both public and academic librarians. One example involves the merging of popular titles with reader rating data. Other examples include drawing on bibliographic data from highly circulated items, or frequently requested interlibrary loan items. The recommender system will suggest items with similar features using similarity metrics. As a result, librarians can acquire relevant materials based on users' previous reading patterns.

· Promoting Library Services to the International Students at the University of South Alabama by Jia He

With the globalization of education and immigration, international students have become a large population group at universities in the United States. Due to this increasingly multicultural nature of society, libraries world-wide need to provide services, programs, and collections to assist these users. Therefore, librarians need to reach this population and show them the resources available at the library to assist them with their education and research goals. The University of South Alabama is a public university in the city of Mobile, Alabama. With 1,391 international students enrolled, the University of South Alabama has the 3rd highest number of international students in Alabama for 2017 (Institution of International Education, 2017). In this poster, the presenter will: 1) analyze the library needs of international students at the University of South Alabama Libraries, 2) discover library programs and services designed for international students, and 3) share effective ways of outreach to international students on campus. This poster will contribute to the diversity library service at academic libraries. Also, some of methods can be used for serve multicultural population at the local community.

· Developing Innovative Services with International Perspectives in the Global Library Communities by Lian Ruan

The Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) Library at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign is a statutory State Fire Academy Library. Since its inception in 1990, under Dr. Lian Ruan's leadership, it has worked hard to break down barriers in a global setting through its innovative international services and outreach efforts. The library team consists of three professional librarians and ten graduate students. Over the years, over 60 University of Illinois School of Information Sciences (iSchool) graduate students were hired and trained. Almost half of these students have been international students. The library team works closely with the Chinese graduate student team of four from the IFSI International Programs. To support its parent organization’s mission as a leader in the global community, the IFSI Library believes that developing innovative services with international perspective matters. It promotes mutual learning about culture and best practices. More importantly, the exchange of information leads to increased mutual understanding and brings out stronger collaboration.
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019 (Continued)

· Enhancing Students’ Information Literacy through an Embedded Library Workshop: Benefits of Librarian-Faculty Collaboration by Liya Deng

The implementation of the ACRL Framework for Information Literacy for Higher Education has had significant implications for academic librarians working with departmental faculty to design and teach subject-specific library instruction. This poster focuses on faculty-librarian collaboration at Eastern Washington University to enhance the information literacy skills of Social Work students through developing and implementing a library research workshop embedded in the senior-level Human Behavior and the Social Environment course. The author delineates the process of securing the faculty buy-in to incorporate the workshop as a course requirement worth a percentage of the final grade. The poster details the workshop structure that featured tailored library instruction followed by customized hands-on activity. During the hands-on portion of the workshop, the students were to complete two practice worksheets centering on the notions of searching as strategic exploration and contextualizing authority in scholarly research. The practical nature of the worksheets helped the students to understand the key information literacy concepts and ensure better knowledge retention. To collect data from in-class student worksheets and final papers in Winter 2019, this project was cleared by the EWU Institutional Review Board. The librarian distributed written consent forms to each student attending the workshop. The findings indicate an increase in student ability to apply the instructional content to their own research. The audience will learn useful outreach strategies to secure full faculty support and seamlessly incorporate the Framework concepts in the heart of a rigorous subject-specific course curriculum.

· Usage Data Analysis Using Python by Lei Jin and Josephine Choi

COUNTER data provided by publishers quantifies use by title for journals, databases, and ebooks. However, we are unable to see how widely spread or concentrated this use is amongst our University population, and lack details to inform our qualitative information gathering for interdisciplinary content. With the adoption of open source and Python technologies, this ongoing project aims to provide comprehensive in-depth e-resources usage reports by combining EZProxy usage data and student registration data. After final data integration and report generation, we are able to see the use of electronic resources by departments, by student profiles (year, program), thus provide collection development support to subject liaisons. This additional context is useful for decision making, marketing, and communication. It helps to answer questions concerning collection development, such as, what are the top 10 most popular resources used by one certain department? which student group would be most affected with the cancellation of one certain resource? or how does a certain department use the resources they requested? etc. The open source and Python scripts are easily shared for those who are interested and desire to adopt this methodology in their own settings.

· From Invisible to Visible: Catalogers and Papyrology Project at Duke by Jianying Shou, Beverly Dowdy and Mandy Hurt

Traditionally, libraries are organized in such a way that catalogers do not interact directly with faculty. Instead, reference and subject librarians have acted as project liaisons, but as demands on libraries require new responsibilities these traditional structures are changing. The papyrology project at Duke University Libraries exemplifies catalogers’ expanding roles in academic research and teaching activities. In 2017, the Duke University Classical Studies faculty requested our help in facilitating a fall 2018 graduate course on papyrology reference materials, which had never been fully cataloged and ingested into the library catalog. In this project, catalogers acted as customer service representatives on behalf of the library in addition to their regular duties, having frequent and collaborative interactions with faculty to directly address the project’s needs. As a direct result of this collaboration, hidden material became visible, missing items were located and all materials were re-cataloged to PCC standards, including the addition of Papyri Checklist call numbers. The project was completed on time and to the complete satisfaction of the Classical Studies department. The papyrology project accomplished two important objectives, demonstrating not only catalogers’ devotion to discoverability above all else but also their willingness to work alongside faculty members for a deeper understanding of how best to address researchers’ needs. Ultimately, catalogers emerged from the backroom to the fore, building an invaluable connection with faculty and ably demonstrating patron-centered service is the objective of all librarians, not just those in public service.
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019 (Continued)

· Beyond the Closed System with Omeka and DPLA by Wen Nie Ng

This use case from the Digital Imaging and Preservation Services (DI&PS) unit of the IT division within the Virginia Tech University Libraries exhibits the overview of the temporary system built on top of Omeka and DPLA in providing online access to digital content of different formats (text, images, three-dimensional object) from regional institutions’ various collections while connecting to DPLA. It addresses the gap of connecting a national level shared cultural heritage platform to the closed system used by small- to medium-sized cultural heritage institutions, usually Omeka, with limited resources. This case study discusses the benefits, challenges, and our solutions in overcoming the drawbacks of the commonly open box open source platform software, Omeka, and how we create workflows integrating Omeka and DPLA as a full system. It offers an alternative to the under-resourced institutions to showcase their collections and creating another access point to the collection on a shared platform.

· Faculty Perspectives on Article Processing Charges by Clara Y. Tran and Victoria Pilato

The open access movement changes the scholarly publishing landscape in many revolutionary ways. The Gold open access model, where the journal provides open access, significantly shifts the journal subscription model to the author-pays model. Some open access journals do not have article processing charges (APCs), though some publishers charge APCs ranging from a few hundred to a few thousand dollars. The payments of APCs may come from funding agencies, institutions, or authors. Articles funded by APCs can be freely available to everyone. However, would APCs fundamentally impact how authors choose their preferred publication venues? An underway survey seeks to understand Stony Brook University faculty perspectives on, and concerns about, APCs. Data will be used to inform our library about how it could improve by helping authors find funding for APCs. In addition, we hope to learn from the research and data what the future APC responsibility may look like in general.

· Supporting Access and Community-Building: The CALA Social Media Tag Library by Sai Deng, Esther De-Leon and Jennie Chen

The Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) Social Media Group initially created the CALA Social Media Tag Library in Fall 2017 to facilitate better navigation and search for social media channels, particularly the CALA Facebook public page and promote the organization’s programs and activities. The Social Media Group introduced the creation of the Tag Library to the CALA community in Summer 2018, but the tags were limited to member-only, internal use. In Spring 2019, the restructured CALA Social Media Committee reviewed, enriched, and standardized the Tag Library, and decided to make it publicly available for anyone interested in posting to CALA’s social media channels. The poster presents a brief history of the Tag Library, illustrates its structure and content, and provides instructions on its usage. It will examine over 1000 postings on CALA’s Facebook page from 2012-2019, identify postings with the highest impact, and perform analysis on tags and full-text. What are the benefits and challenges of utilizing a Tag Library for tagging posts in Facebook, and how can these tags influence reach, user search and discovery? Through this research, the group hopes to better serve the organization, its members and the library community at large. The Tag Library supports diversity in LIS by encouraging community expression through user-centered, user-generated dialogue and allowing users to utilize and contribute their own tags. Not only that, it can be used as an effective toolkit to elevate CALA’s community outreach, presence, and connections to the other ethnic caucuses and to ALA as a whole.
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019 (Continued)

· Building an Innovative Service Through Collaborative Partnership: The Presentation Coaching Program at Oklahoma State University by Hui-Fen Chang

The presentation coaching program at Oklahoma State University is a peer coaching service for students who seek to improve their presentation skills and build competency in speech and communication. Created in 2016, this innovative service is a collaborative partnership between the Library and Communications Sciences and Disorders in the College of Arts and Sciences. Graduate students from the speech-language pathology graduate program serve as the presentation coaches and hold weekly office hours in the Library's newly created presentation studio to meet with clients and offer speech consultations. The program is to assist students in improving their presentation skills, and ultimately to help students succeed and achieve academic excellence. Since the program's inception, assessing the success of the presentation coaching service has also been a priority for this joint endeavor. Various assessment tools are utilized to document user statistics, marketing efforts, and client satisfaction feedback. The information collected through these tools offers the Library meaningful data for evaluating the success (or failure) of the coaching service. This poster presentation highlights the collaborative effort, the design process, and data and assessment tools for this innovative presentation coaching program.

· Transforming Your Staff, Transforming Your Library: Creating a More Culturally Responsive Library in one of America's Whitest City by Toan Lam-Sullivan, Rita Jimenez and Johnette Easter

How do you advance meaningful change to transform your library into an inclusive institution that reflects your community? This poster panels put together by Multnomah County Library staff will share their stories and best practices in the ongoing transformation of their institution. This poster panels will share the breadth of experiences and lessons learned as Multnomah County Library expanded services to African-American, immigrant and refugee communities through the strategic expansion of hiring under-represented staff over more than a decade. Learn how MCL used community assessments as a platform for learning and relationship building, as well as strategic hiring of staff who reflect the community. Their human resources manager will share tactics used to recruit diverse employees, as well as discuss hiring, training and retention. A front-line librarian who has promoted from the ranks will share his experiences.
CALA Programs in ALA Annual Conference 2019 (Continued)

· Are We OK to Study Cataloging Online? How Chinese Students Feel of Using Open Textbooks for Online Cataloging Classes by Xiaojie Duan and Xiaoyu Duan

Online classes have become a trend in nowadays U.S. library schools. Furthermore, with the raising need of fewer costs on textbooks, open textbooks come to the stage. Compared with traditional textbooks, open textbooks are easier to access and edit, and have fewer copyright issues. Many library schools are using open textbooks even in classes that contain hands-on exercises, such as cataloging. This study, which is established in 2019 by two principal investigators, aims at researching Chinese students' preferences and expectations in their online cataloging class textbooks. An online survey will be used to gather responses. Example questions include: 1) What are Chinese students' preferences between online cataloging classes and onsite cataloging classes? 2) What are Chinese students' preferences between open textbooks and traditional textbooks? 3) What are the Chinese students' attitudes towards using open textbooks in online cataloging classes? 4) What are the Chinese students' expectations of using open textbooks and other open access materials in online cataloging classes? This study also tries to reveal how cataloging classes fit themselves in the internet environment, the advantages as well as the challenges of providing open textbooks in online cataloging classes, and how open textbooks meet students' needs.

· Embedded Information Literacy for International Engineering Students in the University Classroom by Guoying Liu and Lisa Salfi

Engineering students often have difficulty selecting, understanding, and critically evaluating information from various sources. International engineering students in particular face unique challenges in the areas of seeking, appraising, incorporating, and citing information. With a continuous influx of international students in higher education in Canada, the US and other Western countries, it is critical to determine the specific and diverse needs of these students in an effort to support their learning, deepen their engagement with scholarship, and encourage their success. In 2017, the Engineering Librarian collaborated with the professor who teaches technical communications to engineering students on a project aiming to embed information literacy in the classroom at the University of Windsor. With the support of a research grant, the team attempt to identify effective models for program-embedded information literacy instruction by evaluating the relevant needs of both domestic and international students in the Master of Engineering program. The effectiveness of in-class instructional sessions on information literacy is examined through a pre- and post-session survey, and students' ability to apply this knowledge is explored through a search strategies assignment. In 2017/18, ten sessions have been delivered to over 800 students. The survey and assignments have been examined. Online information literacy modules have also been developed which can be incorporated into the engineering technical communications course or used independently. This poster will present the project, including methods, data collected, findings, discussions as well as the online modules.
Dr. Lian Ruan is the recipient of the CALA
2018 - 2019 Distinguished Service Award

The CALA Best Service Subcommittee is pleased to announce that Dr. Lian Ruan, life member of CALA and the Director of Illinois Fire Service Institute Library, is selected as the recipient for the 2019 CALA Distinguished Service Award!

Dr. Ruan has been dedicated to Chinese-American librarianship throughout her career. She has committed to the growth and integrity of CALA as a strong ethnic professional association through her outstanding leadership, passionate activism and professional involvement. Among her many contributions, below are listed her major accomplishments during her tenure as CALA Vice-President, President and Executive Director.

- Reinstated CALA’s tax-exempt status after automatic revocation for 10 years with the State of Illinois.
- Created CALA 2015-2020 strategic plan.
- Established CALA ethical code of conduct.
- Increased CALA membership at historic high.
- Nurtured and mentored young and new CALA members.
- Created an archive system to store CALA’s historical files.
- Created a healthier organizational environment legally, financially, and ethically.

Dr. Lian has been an outstanding leader and played many leadership roles in organizations both nationally and locally. She has chaired many committees and taken numerous key member positions since she entered the profession, such as:

- CALA Executive Director, 2016-2019, President, 2015-2016, President-elect /Vice-President, 2013-2015,
- IFLA: Information Literacy Section Standing Committee, 2017-2021,
- JCLC: JCLC Steering, and Publicity and Public Relations Committees, 2016-2018,
- ALA: Committee on Nomination for the 2019 ALA Election, 2018-2019; Task Force on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, 2014-2016,
- Beta Phi Mu, Alpha Chapter: President, 2018-2019.
Of particular note are Dr. Ruan’s prolific publications, numerous presentations, dedicated research and teaching endeavors and community services that recapitulate her contributions to Chinese-American Librarianship, cultural diversity and continuing education. As a dedicated library professional, Dr. Ruan has worked on many grants and obtained over 20 grant awards with a total amount over six hundred thousand dollars. Dr. Ruan has been recognized both nationally and internationally and received 23 awards and honors for her commitment to excellence in the profession, including the 2017 Illinois Academic Librarian of the year Award, the 2015-2017 National Medal for Museum and Library Service and 2016 CALA President Recognition Award.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Ruan on her being selected as the recipient of this long belated Award, and applauding her achievements at 2019 CALA Awards Reception in Washington D.C. during 2019 ALA Annual Conference.

**CALA Best Service Award Committee (2018-2019)**

Leping He, Co-Chair
Hanrong Wang, Co-Chair
Daniel Xiao
Li Sun
Wei Peng
Dr. Qi Chen is the recipient of the 2019 CALA Outstanding Library Leadership Award in Memory of Dr. Margaret Chang Fung

The CALA Best Service Award Subcommittee is pleased to announce that Dr. Qi Chen, Life member of CALA and the Library Director at the Calumet College of St. Joseph, Whiting, IN, is selected as the recipient of the 2019 CALA Outstanding Library Leadership Award in Memory of Dr. Margaret Chang Fung!

Dr. Chen has been dedicated to Chinese-American librarianship since she started her career in the profession. She has committed to the growth and presence of CALA as a strong ethnic professional association through her passion, services and contributions. Dr. Chen has been appreciated by the CALA general members for her commitment to services that were member-focused, professional and of empowerment during her tenure as CALA President-Elect 2014-2015, Vice-President 2015-2016, and President 2016-2017. Dr. Chen has been an outstanding leader and played many leadership roles in organizations both nationally and locally in addition to many committees she has chaired and numerous key member positions she has taken on.

- CALA Executive Board member (2015-2018).
- CALA Liaison to JCLC; JCLC Steering Committee(2016-2019). Organized JCLC 3rd Conference and brought CALA a financial benefit of $45,000.
- CALA representative on IFLA general assembly.
- CALA Liaison to Beijing Academic Library & Information System (BALIS).
- Director of libraries from 1998-present, including the Regional Library Director of Argosy University overseeing 9 major campus Libraries in the East Coast.
Members' Reports (Continued)

It is also worth noting that Dr. Chen is a prolific presenter with talks covering a wide range of topics including Chinese-American librarianship, cultural diversity, leadership, and career development for new librarians and yang CALA members. Dr. Chen’s enthusiasm in nurturing, mentoring and developing new and young CALA leaders was duly recognized, thus she received the 2017-2018 CALA President’s Recognition Award.

Please join me in congratulating Dr. Chen on her being selected as the recipient of the Award, and applauding her achievements at 2019 CALA Awards reception in Washington D.C. during the 2019 ALA Annual Conference.

**CALA Best Service Award Committee (2018-2019)**

Leping He, Co-Chair

Hanrong Wang, Co-Chair

Daniel Xiao

Li Sun

Wei Peng
Members' Reports (Continued)

Travels and Stories Told by Western Explorers of China
Chinese Studies in the West: The Chinese Record, Volume 11

_Chinese Studies in the West: The Chinese Record_, Volume 11 (Zhongguo Yan Jiu Wai Wen Jiu Ji Hui Kan: Zhongguo Ji Lu, 《中国研究外文旧籍汇刊·中国记录》第11辑) will be published by Guilin: Guangxi Normal University Press in Spring 2019. It is co-edited by Sai Deng, Associate Librarian at the University of Central Florida and Guoqing Li, Professor from Ohio State University Library.

The series “Chinese Studies in the West: The Chinese Record” consists of reprints of western books about China in the public domain, with Chinese introductions and translations of the books’ main information, including title, author, preface, table of content, list of illustrations and postscript. A summary is written for each book to introduce its original content with related materials, including author information such as year of birth and death, nationality, biography with emphasis put on the author’s activities in China, major achievements, works, main opinions as well as historic evaluations of the author. The summary also comprises book information, such as writing background, time and period, main content, point of view and historical evaluations of the book. It is designed to help the Chinese researchers and readers understand the book better. Since the 17th century, many Westerners, including government officials, military personnel, businessmen, missionaries, scholars and travelers, had come to China in modern times for various purposes and carried out various activities. It greatly impacted the development of the Chinese society and left large amount of records about China. The personal experiences of and records left by these Westerners are not only first-hand information on the history of Sino-foreign relations, the spread and influence of western culture in China, and the interaction between Chinese and foreign cultures, but also important resources in the study of all aspects of social life in modern China.

In Volume 11 of this series, several Westerners, such as Sir John Francis Davis (1795-1890), Osmond Tiffany, Jr. (1823-1895), William Wightman Wood (1804-?), Frederic Henry Balfour (1846-1909), Benjamin Couch Henry (1850-1901), Walter William Mundy and Sir Robert K. Douglas (1838-1913), told their travels and stories in China in vivid and interesting ways.
Members' Reports (Continued)

John Francis Davis, in *Sketches of China* (《中国笔记》), recorded his extraordinary journey while accompanying Lord Amherst on his embassy to the court of Qing in 1816, along with Henry Ellis and Sir George Staunton. This book described their discussions and negotiations with the mandarins on the ceremony of Kotou, their failed mission of establishing a trade relationship with Qing and their four-month turbulent inland journey between Peking, Nanking and Canton. It is first hand material for studying Sino-British relations, China’s politics, economy, ceremony and diplomacy in the early 19th century.

Osmond Tiffany, Jr., in *The Canton Chinese, or the American’s Sojourn in the Celestial Empire* (《广州的中国人，或旅居天朝的美国人》), described his trip to Canton and Macao in the 1840s. He painted a rich picture of the Chinese and Chinese society including its people and their lives, Chinese shops, museum-like antique stores, tea hongs and temples. He also wrote about the opium trade and smokers in a sympathetic and humanitarian way.

The American reporter and merchant William Wightman Wood traveled to southern China in the 1820s, especially Canton and its surrounding areas. His book *Sketches of China* (《中国素描》) is arranged by close to 100 topics covering everything from Nine Islands, Macao, dock yards, canals, police, coolies, architecture, medical science, astronomy to business, naval force, opium trade, nuptial ceremonies and secret societies. They were all taken from the notes he took in his travels. He believed that a true record of China is more acceptable than “mystifying” China.

From a more “peculiar” perspective, the British writer and *Tao Te Ching*’s translator Frederic Henry Balfour accounted his impressions and views of China. He wrote about filial piety, Chinese idea of pathology, Chinese medicine and many other topics, often with comparison to their western corresponding counterparts (*Leaves from My Chinese Scrapbook*, 《中国拾零》). This book provides some different perspectives for us to rethink the Chinese traditional culture.

The American missionary Benjamin Couch Henry’s heartfelt account of his exploration of southern China and his trip across the Island of Hainan is a masterpiece. His travel in the unknown regions of Hainan where he overcame numerous difficulties and hardships is especially touching, and his experiences with the Lei is also unique and well documented. This book not only provides a wealth of first-hand information for researchers who are interested in geography, history and humanities of Ling-Nam and Hainan in the late 19th century but is also a fun to read travel book for the general public. (*Ling-Nam; or, Interior Views of Southern China, including Explorations in the Hitherto Untraversed Island of Hainan*, 《岭南：华南及海南岛行纪》).
Members' Reports (Continued)

There is also British merchantman Walter William Mundy’s six-month adventure in China, during which he had visited Hong Kong and Canton with great interest, encountered a pirate assault at sea and a typhoon along the coast of Hong Kong, (Canton and the Bogue. The Narrative of an Eventful Six Months in China, 《广州和虎门：英人中国历险记》). Although it is difficult for him to understand the isolation of Qing, he did witness an awakening modern China. He emphasized the necessity and urgency of Britain doing business with China.

Volume 10 also includes Sir Robert K. Douglas’s comprehensive portrayal of China such as its history, government, family, education, agriculture, medicine and religion. Douglas’ book also explores music, drawing, architecture, languages and the different Chinese customs including names and funeral rites, with rich references and insightful comments (China, 《中国》). He has a certain degree of understanding and sympathy for China, however his views are basically “western.” In addressing the Sino-British relations before and after the Opium War, he described the heavy resistance encountered by British officials in China and did not raise any objection to the attitude and decisions of his own government.

In addition, the series also includes China Revolutionized (《辛亥革命前后的中国》) by John Stuart Thomson which describes China’s modernization after the Revolution of 1911 and its political, economic and social changes; A Handbook to Canton, Macao and the West River (《广州、澳门和西江》), a travel book published by the Hong Kong, Canton& Macao Steamboat Co.; and Chinese Stories (《中国故事》), a collection of Chinese novels selected by Sir Robert K. Douglas with a genuine and fun introduction to Chinese fiction from a Westerner’s perspective.

Professor Guoqing Li has been this book series’ Editor-in-Chief and translator for over a decade. In August 2018, the publisher held a ceremony for Professor Li to celebrate the series’ publication of 10 volumes (100 titles) at the 25th Beijing International Book Fair. Sai Deng, previously an editor of the Commercial Press International, joined the translation team starting from volume 10. She felt it is “an interesting journey, a joy and also a tremendous responsibility” to work on this unique series of its kind.
Members' Reports (Continued)

Jennie Pu (蒲贞妮) was appointed Dean of College Libraries at Hudson County Community College, an award-winning, comprehensive urban college with two campuses located just minutes from Manhattan in Jersey City and Union City.

She comes into the role bringing over 13 years of diverse library and industry experience including K-12 school libraries, special collection and research libraries. She has been an invited speaker at national and regional conferences including Chicago Metropolitan Library System, New York Library Association, Computers in Libraries and NJECC Technology Conference. Jennie holds an MLS from Queens College (CUNY), a B.A. in American Ethnic Studies from the University of Washington. She is excited to build upon the exemplary programming and operations that earned the College the Association of College and Research Libraries Excellence in Academic Libraries Awards, the only New Jersey institution ever to be so honored.

Congratulations to Kinsey Institute’s Library & Special Collections Director Liana H. Zhou for her recent publication in Library Trends, Volume 66, Number 4, Spring 2018, pp. 568-584 called “Bodies of Evidence: Understanding the Transformation of Collections from Individuals to Institutions”

Data Curation Primer Published

Sai Deng, Metadata Librarian and Associate Librarian at the University of Central Florida has published “SPSS Data Curation Primer” (co-authored with Joshua Dull, Jeanine Finn & Shahira Khair) in the Spring of 2019. This work can be accessed from the Minnesota Digital Conservancy at: http://hdl.handle.net/11299/202812

Primers are “living documents that detail a specific subject, functional area, file format or curation task and that can be used as a reference to curate research data” (Data Curation Network, DCN). The SPSS Data Curation Primer primarily discusses data files saved in IBM SPSS Statistics. This work was created as part of the DCN Network (https://datacurationnetwork.org/)’s “Specialized Data Curation” Workshop. More primers will be deposited into the Minnesota Digital Conservancy at: https://conservancy.umn.edu/handle/11299/202807

It is hoped that the primers will be useful as references and guides in the library’s efforts to archive and preserve research datasets. Sai will also be presenting a poster titled “Developing, Delivering and Redesigning Metadata and Data Documentation Workshop for Graduate Students” at the 2019 Research Data Access & Preservation Association Summit in Miami on May 16.
Members' Reports (Continued)

Congratulations to CALA Veteran Prof. Haiwang Yuan: Who Was Recognized and Received an Award of “Excellence in Research & Creative Activity” from Western Kentucky University

A life member of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), Prof Haiwang Yuan is no stranger to many CALA members. He served on many committees as well as being elected as a Board of Directors in the past. Apart from his outstanding service for the CALA, he has been an AP reader and serves as an editor for the peer-reviewed Journal of Research on Chinese Language Teaching. Just recently, he received another award “Excellence in Research & Creative Activity” from Western Kentucky University on March 25, 2019.

In addition to his wide interests in research, Prof. Haiwang Yuan is an author/co-author and editor/co-editor of a dozen or so books. His recent publications are Mastering Modern Chinese through the Classics (Routledge 2018) and Becoming a Dragon: Forty Chinese Proverbs for Lifelong Learning and Classroom Study (Berkshire 2018). Apart from those two new publications, his Encyclopedia of Ethnic Groups of China is to be published in 2019 by the Encyclopedia of China Publishing House in Beijing, China.

Congratulations to Prof. Haiwang Yuan! CALA is very proud of you!

Contributed by Fu Zhuo
Chapter Highlights

2019 CALA Northeast Chapter Spring Conference at Princeton University

On April 26, 2019 CALA Northeast Chapter Spring Conference was held at the Firestone Library, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey. The conference was an one-day program on the theme of community engagement, including one featured talk, four lightning talks, and two libraries tours. Our featured talk was from Frank Xu, who was the Manager of the Division of Language and Literature at Brooklyn Public Library. His talk was about a project on Jewish refugees in Shanghai at Brooklyn Public Library, which was a very well-received community engagement project. It was reported by wide range of media, including New York Times (https://www.nytimes.com/2019/04/25/nyregion/jewish-refugees-shanghai.html).

We had 22 attendees, including two honored guests. Our honored guests included Dr. Tsing Yuan (袁清，袁同礼之子), a retired professor of History from Wright State University, and Dr. Yuan’s wife, Hua-zhou Lee (李华胄，李华伟之妹), a retired librarian. The conference was very successful with great speakers, inspiring presentations, and honored guests. Sincere thanks from CALA NE Executive Committee to all members and guests for their support. The program website is available here https://libguides.princeton.edu/cala-ne-spring2019. All presentations can be downloaded from the website. Selected pictures and conference program flyer are shared below.
Chapter Highlights (Continued)

CALA Northern and Southern Chapters’ First Joint Virtual Meeting
By Raymond Pun and Jie Tian

On May 2nd, members of CALA-NCA and CALA SCA met together virtually to share ideas, best practices and resources on a zoom platform. Convened by Ray Pun (Chapter President of Northern CA) and Jie Tian (Chapter President of Southern CA), 11 members across the state participated in this meeting. Lian Ruan (Executive Director of CALA) also attended to share updates regarding CALA National activities at ALA and in general.

Ray created an innovative opening for this virtual meeting in the spirit of professionalism and fun. We started by introducing ourselves and sharing what our favorite fruits are. While we learned about one another’s professional titles and responsibilities, we also had fun looking through a small window into members as people with different passions and tastes. We were impressed and heartened by the fact that we have retired CALA members joining this virtual meeting to reconnect with the organization.

This online professional exchange included several significant areas of communication: events and happenings in member libraries, Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month activities that members were involved with or participated in, NCA and SCA chapters’ upcoming annual programs, upcoming CALA activities and conferences, including the California Library Association (CLA) Conference in Pasadena in October 2019. One other important area of communication covered communication strategies, election process, and fundraising efforts within CALA and at the chapter level.

Both NCA and SCA will be holding their annual programs this spring: NCA on May 4th, 2019 and and SCA on May 22, 2019. NCA’s annual program called “Building New Opportunities and Library Connections” went really well. (See YiPing Wang’s report for more information).

The SCA program will revolve around the conference theme, “Celebrate Legacies and Reimagine the Future.” Patty Wong, Director of Library Services of Santa Monica Public Library and esteemed CALA member and library leader, will be the keynote speaker, offering a perennially important program: “Lead From Every Position – Creating a Personal and Professional Pathway.” Six stellar SCA members will also present on a wide range of topics and engage members in creative actions. These presenters are Su Chen, Amy Jiang, Jon Jablonski, Jeannie Chen, Xi Chen, and Kuet Chiu. You are welcome to visit the CALA-SCA website to see the detailed annual program schedule.

One of the most productive area of discussions was fundraising. Many great suggestions were raised, including working closely with CALA’s Fundraising/PR Committee as respective members, an announcement of job posts, CALA’s effective advertising program and successful 2018 JCLC conference, visiting vendors in person in addition to letters and emails, reaching out to the “big names” such as Google, FaceBook, etc. and promoting CALA’s Amazon Smile program. For example, employers can post job ads in CALA’s homepage for nominal fees and this can be a great way to help promote job opportunities to CALA members too. For the CALA’s Amazon Smile program, folks can shop on AmazonSmile which they can find on CALA’s website (cala-web.org) which is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices, and shopping features as Amazon.com. The only difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

This first virtual meeting was successful and we plan to meet again in the fall to continue the conversation and sharing best practices and resources on selected topics to support each other.
Chapter Highlights (Continued)

Report of CALA Midwest Chapter 2019 Annual Conference
By Fu Zhuo and CALA MW Chapter Executive Board

The Midwest Chapter of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) held its 2019 Conference annual conference virtually on April 24th, 2019 with 36 attendees.

The theme of our annual conference was “Winds of Spring – Trends and Challenges in Libraries.” The conference was represented in a geographically, institutionally and topically diverse way. The conference presenters came from different states of the Midwest Region and represented different types of libraries including public and academic libraries of various size across the Midwest region. Ten presenters shared their projects and experiences on a wide range of topics such as serving diverse user groups, information literacy, metadata collaboration, linked data, using logic model to engage staff participation, library assessment, reading behavior, gaming in user education, and distance learners’ use of library resources and services. The presenters and attendees had very productive discussions and exchange of ideas during the day-long conference.

Special thanks to Ying Zhang, current CALA president and Head of Acquisition and Collections at University of Central Florida, who delivered an inspiring opening remark and to Fu Zhuo, CALA incoming president and Teaching and Learning Librarian at the Miller Nichols Library, University of Missouri-Kansas City, who concluded the conference with his uplifting closing remarks.

A successful conference is always the outcome of great team effort. Gratitude should be expressed to many fellows for making this conference a great success. CALA MW Chapter Professional Development (PD) Committee (co-chaired by Liping Song and Xiaocan Wang) selected the theme, called for proposals, reviewed the proposals, and promoted the conference. Many thanks to Yan He for hosting the conference from her home institution, Indiana University at Kokomo and for setting up the testing sessions. Minhao Jiang was in charge of the web presence of the conference program, as both the chapter Web Committee Chair and a member of the PD Committee. Mingyan Li, the president of CALA MW Chapter led the MW Chapter Executive Board in every aspect of this conference. Without their leadership, service, and commitment, this conference would not have been possible.

We are very proud of what the Chapter has accomplished and look forward to another year of great success!

(Conference program can be accessed at https://midwest.chapters.cala-web.org/2019-cala-midwest-chapter-annual-conference-program/)
Chapter Highlights (Continued)

Report on the CALA NCA Annual Program: Building New Opportunities and Library Connections
By YiPing Wang

Chinese American Librarians Association, Northern California Chapter 2019 Annual Program: Building New Opportunities and Library Connections was held at Richmond/Senator Milton Marks Branch Library on Saturday, May 4. This symposium featured library professionals and educators to present the latest trends and discussions relating to library services for all types of libraries to consider and opened to all interested in making new connections and opportunities for professional growth.

Special thanks to Terry Carlson helps to host the program at Richmond/Senator Milton Marks Branch, and Ran Pun organizes and invites speakers and virtual welcome remarks from ALA President Loida Garcia-Febo and CALA President Ying Zhang. Local presenters (in the order of presentation): Haipeng Li, University Librarian, UC Merced Library and Past President of CALA presented Appreciative Leadership; Sandra Rios Balderrama, President of REFORMA del Valle Central highlighted the library and literacy activities of REFORMA del Valle Central in supporting diversity, inclusion and social justice; Philip Schreur, Associate University Librarian for Access and Technical Services, Stanford University Libraries introduced Linked data and AI are transforming the Web and libraries along with it. But what are the benefits and challenges for libraries in this revolution? Why should we take part?

The Panel Conversation features library leaders from respective organizations groups in the Bay Area to talk about their experiences and strategies in navigating through the library profession locally and nationally.

Panel Conversation Leaders

APALA’s Annie Pho (University of San Francisco Library)
SLA Bay Area Chapter’s Michael Sholinbeck (UC Berkeley Libraries)
REFORMA BPLG Chapter’s Esmeralda Casas (San Mateo County Libraries)
CALA NCA Chapter’s Shu-Hua Liu (Santa Clara County Library)

Moderator: CALA NCA Chapter’s Ray Pun
CALA NCA Programming Committee:
Terry Carlson, San Francisco Public Library
Jianye He, UC Berkeley Libraries
Shuqin Jiao, (Treasurer) Yolo County Library
Shu-Hua Liu, Santa Clara County Library
Raymond Pun, (Chair) Alder Graduate School of Education
YiPing Wang, Laney College
Hualing Wan, Yolo County Library

The program presentation is available to view “Building New Opportunities and Library Connections”
Chapter Highlights (Continued)

Report on the CALA NCA Annual Program: Building New Opportunities and Library Connections

By YiPing Wang
Ray: Thanks for speaking with us! Can you share highlights from your ACRL Presidency in 2018-2019?

Lauren: First, thank you, Ray, for inviting me to share my thoughts with you and our CALA colleagues. I really appreciate this opportunity, both to reflect on my time in this role and to share with the CALA Community.

As I joined the ACRL Board, it was already working to identify the best ways to recommit to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) work. As a result of these discussions, the ACRL Board voted to adopt a core commitment to EDI and reworked our strategic plan, the ACRL Plan for Excellence, to better represent our thinking and goals for the Association. Our intention for the core commitment is that it permeates the work of ACRL, cutting across all sections, committees, interest and discussion groups, and communities of practice. We acknowledge and will work to address historical racial inequities, challenge oppressive systems within academic libraries, value different ways of knowing, and identify and work to eliminate barriers to equitable services, spaces, resources, and scholarship.

The theme of my presidency has been organizational change to support EDI. In particular I am seeking to elevate conversations about structural, systemic, and cultural changes that are necessary to build more equitable, diverse, and inclusive libraries—both for staff and for our users. I have been working with an incredible President’s Program Committee (PPC) to develop opportunities for members to engage in discussion that supports this work.

The PPC arranged for Dr. Terry Ross, Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of the University of Washington’s College of the Environment, to speak at ALA Midwinter on the topic of “Climbing the Stairs to Diversity & Inclusion Success.” He spoke to the importance of EDI work, taking time to assess how your organization is doing, and targeting the next “step” as an organizational goal. He emphasized collaboration and working together towards a long term vision, and his program was well received.

I also thrilled by the EDI Discussion Series that the PPC is facilitating. ACRL staff have been incredibly supportive, and the contributing authors have brought forward thoughtful, smart, and powerful articles. These articles can help those of us seeking to build better mental models and understanding of complex EDI issues. In addition, these articles can be used within organizations as conversation starters or catalysts for new ideas within your libraries. We anticipate new content though the end of my presidency.

Ray: What has been the most surprising moment in your ACRL presidency so far?

Lauren: I have been surprised by the amount of work that goes into this type of role: weekly phone calls, responding to complicated issues as they arise, speaking at ACRL Chapter Meetings, planning and running quarterly board meetings, coordinating with the PPC, presenting awards, and writing thank you notes to ACRL donors. One thing that hasn’t been a surprise is how amazing and supportive the ACRL staff is. They have this work down to a science! The staff keeps me on track, serve as invaluable advisors, and can anticipate and proactively respond to anything that members bring forward. It’s a joy to work with them.
Interviews and Features (Continued)

An Interview with ACRL President 2018-2019 Lauren Pressley, Associate Dean of University Libraries Director of University of Washington Tacoma Library

I have also been impressed by my fellow ACRL members. Understanding the need to do our own work, ACRL Board members, Goal Area Chairs, and ACRL senior staff actively engaged in cultural competency training from DeEtta Jones and Associates. After Midwinter, my fellow board members came together to quickly write a statement Against Racism, Harassment, and Discrimination in the Profession for our members. The ACRL presidents (past, vice, and myself) worked with our Executive Director to quickly draft a letter in response to a regional accreditation change. When I asked the PPC to consider how to create a conversation about EDI and organizational change rather than a single event, they built a scaffolded and ongoing project that has required much more of them than they might have initially suspected. Overall, this role has given me a renewed sense of appreciation for the focus, hard work, and passion that members our profession bring to their work. It has affirmed that when people are working towards a shared vision, they will do what it takes to make progress towards that goal. It’s incredibly rewarding, exciting, and humbling to be able to witness this firsthand.

Ray: What’s next for you and for ACRL, and where do you see ACRL heading?
Lauren: As we speak, final preparations are underway for the ACRL 2019 conference in Cleveland. I am so excited for the conference. It’s a terrific location, we have wonderful keynote speakers scheduled, and the program looks outstanding. As you might expect, given our core commitment, the conference planning committees have paid particular attention to EDI issues, and you will see this reflected in programming and services. In fact, there is a page devoted to Accessibility and Inclusivity that outlines steps ACRL has taken to make it a welcoming and inclusive conference for all.

I’m also looking forward to ALA Annual, in Washington DC, as the PPC has arranged for Dr. Angela Spranger, author of Why People Stay: Helping Your Employees Feel Seen, Safe, and Valued to speak. We selected Dr. Spranger as our culminating speaker, as we know that many of our colleagues do not feel included in their professional workplaces and it is critical that those of us already working in libraries need to build equitable and inclusive environments that support diversity. Dr. Spranger will share an approach to inclusive leadership that we expect will leave participants energized and engaged!

It is clear that ACRL has made a long-term commitment to EDI, and I would expect to see more evidence of that commitment as members become familiar with the core commitment. We plan to offer ally training at conferences and virtually. I would expect to see more programming and publishing in support of this work as well. I am incredibly hopeful about this renewed energy and focus, and believe that we will have a better profession because of it.
An Interview with PLA President 2018-2019 Dr. Monique le Conge Ziesenhenne, Director of Library & Community Services in Palo Alto City Library

Ray: Thank you for speaking with us! Can you share highlights and vision of your PLA presidency in 2018-2019?

Monique: Since PLA has presidents for only 1 year (with 1 year as President-Elect and 1 year as Immediate Past President, for a total of 3 years on the PLA Board), we don’t have a “vision” or any kind of specific initiative. There are about 15 PLA staff members at the ALA Headquarters in Chicago who carry on the daily work and planning for the organization. They, in turn, advise the Board on possible activities and member benefits, and the Board makes the decisions.

That said, there are a couple of highlights so far in my term: we have a new strategic plan (http://www.ala.org/pla/about/mission/strategicplan) to guide our activities until 2022, and I was able to travel to Turkey to deliver a keynote address at the “Life After LIFE” (https://www.ifla.org/node/36488) conference. This was the closing of a 5-year Bill and Melinda Gates’ Foundation Global Libraries Initiative Grant program. It was an inspiring event, reminding me that public libraries all over the world have the same mission: to improve the lives of those living in their communities.

Ray: These resources look great. Can you share any ideas for collaboration between CALA and PLA members?

Monique: First, I’d ask CALA members where they can see intersections that might be helpful to them. What would they like to see PLA offer? What needs do they see in public libraries where we may have an impact? Second, PLA is investigating offering new types of training, to add to its current offerings of continuing education (http://www.ala.org/pla/education). If CALA has suggestions for relevant topics, your members should let us know. We are always looking for new topics.

Third, I invite CALA members to write and submit articles and news items for Public Libraries magazine and publiclibrariesonline.org (http://www.ala.org/pla/resources/publications/publiclibraries).

It would be great to have a way to share what CALA members are doing with PLA members.

Ray: Thanks for your encouragement! We hope CALA folks who work in public libraries will take advantage of these opportunities. What’s next for PLA? Where do you see PLA heading?

Monique: PLA is busy with a number of initiatives (http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives), especially the 2020 Census, EDI, and Performance Measurement. I’m also excited about the various opportunities to develop leadership http://www.ala.org/pla/education/imperson/equity [EDI] training will be offered in 2019.

If CALA members are also PLA members, I encourage them to volunteer to do committee work. Our committees allow virtual participation, so travel to ALA conferences is not required. We need an enthusiastic, knowledgeable group of volunteers to help! Our next conference will be in Nashville, TN, February 25-29, 2020 (http://www.ala.org/pla/education/conferences). A call for program proposals will be out in the Spring, so I hope that CALA members will consider applying. I find PLA to be the most relevant conference to what I do as a public librarian; every program I attend has something for me!

The PLA Board held their Fall meeting in Nashville this year, and we did an immersion experience, to learn more about the city and the people who live there. We were delighted to find an active non-profit, social enterprise, business development, and immigrant support community, in addition to an amazing public library. Those who attend the conference will have the opportunity to learn from the local organizations – in addition to learning at the conference.

PLA itself is financially secure and well-positioned to move forward with their support of public libraries!
The Dorot Jewish Division at The New York Public Library: A Collection Review

By Raymond Pun, Alder Graduate School of Education

The Dorot Jewish Division, a unique division in The New York Public Library: Stephen A. Schwarzman Building on 42nd street and 5th avenue in New York City, has been a leading center in collecting and promoting the research collections of Hebraica and Judaica since the 1900s. The collection ranges from materials in rare books such as Torahs, cookbooks, liturgies, manuscripts and scriptures relating to Yiddish and Hebrew cultures and studies dating as far as the 1400s to the present time. “Today the division contains a comprehensive and balanced chronicle of the religious and secular history of the Jewish people in over a quarter of a million books, microforms, manuscripts, newspapers, periodicals and ephemera from all over the world.”[1]

This is actually where I first started working in libraries, I was a student intern at the Dorot Jewish Division as an undergraduate student majoring in history. I wanted to work on preserving oral history and archival materials from the Holocaust collection and a friend I knew had worked in the division before and introduced me to the librarians there for an internship opportunity. I ended up learning what public and research librarians do and found it quite interesting. This piece briefly reviews the collection in the Dorot Jewish Division and how the collection connects to the Chinese heritage.

One of the division’s special collections is the oral history records and transcripts ranging from Holocaust survivors to American Jews in Israel; these are original, rare and unique to the division’s overall collections. In this collection, there are “over 156,000 pages of transcripts and 6,000 hours of taped interviews with 2,250 informants.”[2] These resources are not only rich for research but vital for preserving the voices and memories of the Jewish people. Interestingly, the collection also contains information about the Jewish community in Shanghai from the 1930s. Approximately 20,000 refugees left Europe and abandoned their belongings due to the increasing threat of Nazis. They left for Shanghai since it was an open port that did not require visas or passports. As a result, Jews living in Shanghai settled and created their own communities and distributed newspapers such as the Almanac-Shanghai. It is a fascinating collection that is worth revisiting on the roles of refugees in Chinese social history.

In addition to this collection, the division also provides support in genealogical research, anthropological study of the Jewish Diaspora or historical research on Kabbalah, a school of thought concerning Rabbinic Judaism. Scholars, students, researchers, artists and rabbis from all over the world have visited the division to conduct research in their respective fields. In addition to this collection, the division also provides support in genealogical research, anthropological study of the Jewish Diaspora or historical research on Kabbalah, a school of thought concerning Rabbinic Judaism. Scholars, students, researchers, artists and rabbis from all over the world have visited the division to conduct research in their respective fields. The division also collects posters, post cards, menus and holiday pop-up cards that reflect the turn of the 20th century – these ephemeral materials are important for conducting research in the social history of the Jewish people in America. In addition, the foreign language collection is also unique; patrons can request languages books to learn Biblical and Modern Hebrew, Yiddish, or
The Dorot Jewish Division at The New York Public Library: A Collection Review

By Raymond Pun, Alder Graduate School of Education

Aramaic.

One of the most unique items that they have collected is the Don Ferrante Mahzor (see below for image). In Italian script, this manuscript was produced by three scribes (a person who writes books by hand for a living) in 1458 to 1495 in Naples, Italy. According to the catalog record, this mahzor (a prayer book) “contains a prayer for anzisim (forced converts to Christianity); a prayer for women in labor found in many Italian prayer books and a prayer composed in Rome.”[1] In the image below, there is also a tree like figure next to the texts and the tree represents the bitter roots or herbs consumed by Jewish people during Passover.

The manuscript is unique in all levels: it was produced in vellum (animal skin), there are other colorful and vivid images and representations, and the Hebrew letters are printed very neatly by hand. This item is a testament to the collection’s strength in rare books and manuscripts.

From Don Ferrante Mahzor (Kingdom of Naples between 1458 and 1495)

From the early copies of The Jewish Daily Forward (1897: English and Yiddish as Forverts) preserved as a microfilm to ha-Arets (1919: Israel’s oldest daily newspaper in Hebrew: פִּזְרַע), the division is also known for its newspaper and periodical collections. These newspapers come from all over the world – in North America, Europe, the Middle East, and in other regions where there are small Jewish communities such as India, Australia, Brazil, Suriname, China and Indonesia. Any reader can come to the division for research – they will not only find books about and by Jewish people but also hidden gems such as an oral history records from Jewish immigrants or American holiday greeting cards from 1910. It is a unique place and opportunity for scholars and students to conduct research and learn more about the Jewish culture and history in the global context.

I was fortunate to have interned at an important research library early in my “library career” and that has greatly shaped my own values and experiences in the profession. I recommend readers to look into their library’s special collections because they may find something so unique that may redefine their own work and value in the profession.

[1] From the website: https://www.nypl.org/locations/divisions/jewish-division

[2] See the web page for more information relating to oral history archives in the Jewish Division as well as the Yizkor Holocaust Memorial Books. http://www.nypl.org/locations/id/36/node/62689

[3] For more details of the manuscript, see the catalog record: http://catalog.nypl.org/record=b16133142~S1
Imagine that you wish to search the public library catalog and request books, check out or drop off print materials, or escape from the noisy life and enjoy a quiet study space with free Wi-Fi for a project; and even more, you wish to access to all these convenient services 24/7 within a 15-minute walking distance: How is it possible in any city in the world? Many patrons in the U.S. may have gotten used to 15-minute drive to the closest branch public libraries. However, the City of Wenzhou made it possible by embedding dozens of renovated reading hubs to serve hundreds of residential communities, and the embedding of reading hubs has functioned successfully as an innovative service model of public libraries since 2017 to other cities in China.

Traditionally, public libraries in China (or perhaps in many other countries in the world) have only played a role of a centralized storage space of books for citizens to checkout or browse insides. In this regard, traditional public libraries required a substantial funding support and spaces, but only serve a limited radius of adjacent residential communities. Along with the growing need for community information literacy of city residents, public libraries have transformed into a more significant role of learning spaces; however, public libraries face the space challenges when they attempt to extend the service in some of the highly populated cities in China. Realizing the difficult reality of restricted land and funding resources, the municipal administrators of Wenzhou have collaborated with the city’s Public Library System to remodel abandoned or unused commercial and residential spaces and turned them to modernized reading/studying hubs, branded as “City’s Study” (城市书房).

The idea of embedding reading hubs in the residential areas originated from a broader community service intent, which is creating a continuous pattern of 15-minute metropolitan cultural circles and creating a public reading and learning community space. There are similarities and differences between the concept of “City’s Study” reading hubs and the traditional model of central and branch public libraries. Citizens are able to access to these self-operating reading hubs within walking distance 24/7, but traditional libraries usually have restriction of operating hours and in many cases are far away from the central community. Moreover, “City’s Study” have frequently-circulated print materials for self-checkout and significant study space, but the cost performance of operation is much lower than centralized traditional libraries. Additionally, central public libraries tend to spend a considerable amount of funds on large volumes of print resources that do not circulate often, while the collection of “City’s Study” is developed based on circulation statistics that identify popular titles for projected users, especially materials for young adults and children in the served neighborhood.

The implementation of the concept “City’s Study” reading hub does not conflict with the regular settings of centralized or branch public libraries; instead, they complement each other to improve public library services in the city. With the seamless combination of the two operating models, a better urban cultural service can be extended to broader communities.
Embedded “City’s Study” Reading Hubs in Residential Community: An Innovative Service Model of Public Libraries

DONG Shuai & YANG Le, Wenzhou-Kean University

The implementation of the concept “City’s Study” reading hub does not conflict with the regular settings of centralized or branch public libraries; instead, they complement each other to improve public library services in the city. With the seamless combination of the two operating models, a better urban cultural service can be extended to broader communities. “City’s Study” reading hubs are all operated under the umbrella of the public library system, which means the library resources can circulate between the reading hubs and public libraries more accurately based on usage statistics. Patrons can also request books from any branches all over the city to deliver to the closest “City’s Study” and self-checkout the books using their citizen ID cards. In return, because “City’s Study” supplements some functions of the public libraries by providing in-time convenient service, public libraries will be enhanced with more professional resources and facilities to meet a wider range of patron needs in the city.

The rapid development of technologies plays a critical role of enabling implementation of innovative services, but creative ideas play an essential role from the very beginning. The service model of embedded reading hubs helps the public library system extend services to communities directly and improve the user experience of using public library resources and spaces. With the spread of the “City’s Study” reading hubs, it is predictable that the combination of embedded reading hubs and centralized public libraries will be implemented in more cities to help enhance urban cultural services. This innovative service model has the potential to influence public librarianship globally, far beyond the Wenzhou community.

(All photos were taken by the author DONG Shuai)
Acknowledgement

CALA would like to thank the following vendor and partner for supporting us with a generous donation!

ProQuest

ProQuest is committed to supporting the important work happening in the world’s research and learning communities. The company curates content that matters to the advancement of knowledge, assembling an archive of billions of vetted, indexed documents. It simplifies workflows so that people and institutions use time effectively. And because ProQuest connects information communities, complex networks of systems and processes work together efficiently. With ProQuest, finding answers and deriving insights is straightforward and leads to extraordinary outcomes.
CALA Newsletter (ISSN: 0736-8887) is the official publication of the Chinese American Librarians Association. It is published twice a year in spring and fall.

URL: http://cala-web.org/newsletter
President: Ying Zhang, ying.zhang@ucf.edu
Vice President/President Elect: Fu Zhuo, zhuof@umkc.edu
Executive Director: Lian Ruan, lruan@illinois.edu

CALA Newsletter Editorial Team
Co-Editor: Ray Pun, raypun101@gmail.com
Co-Editor: Yingqi Tang, tang@jsu.edu
Layout Editor: Xiaoyu Duan, zhizhe13@gmail.com
Layout Editor: Xiying Mi, mixiying@gmail.com
https://cala-web.org/newsletter