



TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2020

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FROM THE TATEUCHI EAST ASIA LIBRARY DIRECTOR

by **Zhijia Shen**

The golden autumn brings enchanting colors to our beautiful campus. This year, however, we are missing the exciting highlights on the landscape—the crowds of students, faculty and staff and the youthful energy that usually mark a new academic year. Despite physical dislocation, these groups engage more busily than ever with teaching, learning, and research, on Zoom and elsewhere in cyberspace. Due to COVID-19, the university decided to continue holding 90% of classes online for the autumn quarter, and UW Libraries buildings remain closed to the public. Along with our colleagues across the Libraries, TEAL staff have been actively providing online services to meet the needs of our users.



TEAL Director,
Zhijia Shen

Our autumn library orientations for incoming graduate students went ahead as usual this year, but online. On September 25th TEAL subject librarians and staff collaborated with other international studies libraries to initiate a combined library orientation for incoming graduate students with interests in one or more international regions. Orientations have previously been held either for students from the Jackson School of International Studies, or for Asian studies students from various departments. This year we created a broader event targeting students interested in any international region from all humanities and social science departments and some professional and technological schools. The one-hour online session was co-hosted by Chinese/Taiwanese Studies Reference, Instruction and Liaison Librarian Ian Chapman (TEAL) and Slavic, Baltic and East European Studies Librarian Michael Biggins (Suzzallo Library). Several dozen students, some located abroad, and thirteen library staff participated in the meeting, which combined a general introduction and area-specific breakout groups. On September 21 and 22, TEAL staff

provided Chinese, Japanese, and Korean language orientations to UW Libraries services through the FIUTS organization, which specializes in international scholarly exchange. Fifty-seven international students and scholars signed up for the sessions.

Over the summer, TEAL subject librarians held a series of discussions aimed at formulating future directions for the Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop Series, which we had successfully launched in 2019-2020. They identified digital scholarship for East Asian studies as the focus for events in 2020-21, and revised the program's structure to incorporate a sequence of scholarly talks, hands-on workshops, and informal "coffee hour" discussions. The opening event, on October 8th, featured a talk by Dr. Yuta Hashimoto of the National Museum of Japanese History on "Digital Scholarship in the Study of Historical Japanese Earthquakes." It was a great success, with an audience of 75 from all over the world; Dr. Hashimoto himself spoke from Japan. Kudos to Azusa Tanaka and Ian Chapman for their hard work in organizing the event. A repertoire of programming has been developed for the rest of the academic year. For details, please check the article by Ian Chapman in this issue.

Despite the pandemic's ongoing threat, we are taking carefully planned steps to reopen our physical collections and resume essential onsite work. In early October, shortly after the beginning of the academic year, UW Libraries launched a No Contact Pick-Up Service for borrowing physical items. TEAL staff have been working behind the scenes to support the new curbside service, reshelving returned books and troubleshooting difficulties encountered by the Libraries central circulations team in locating books requested from our collections. Since October 14th, some TEAL staff have also returned to campus two days a week for essential work, such as sorting the seventh-month backlog of mail, processing overdue invoices, opening accumulated boxes of new acquisitions, working on time-sensitive grant-funded projects, and other tasks that will facilitate the workflow of TEAL staff working from home. To

prepare for this, on October 9th TEAL conducted its first online staff training, following UW Environmental Health and Safety Department guidelines and the COVID-19 prevention plans of UW Libraries and TEAL. We have established a work log for staff to sign in for onsite work and communicate issues or concerns while working onsite.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, TEAL staff have achieved significant accomplishments under difficult circumstances. Working closely with me while Hyokyoung Yi, Head of Public Services, was on research leave, Le Button and Yan Zhu identified ten projects that they could work on from home to enhance access and services. These included a Chinese Tea Hour to develop Chinese language students' reading skills, library maintenance projects such as compiling a TEAL Operations Manual, and online catalog enhancement, among others. TEAL Technical Services staff and Chinese, Japanese, and Korean catalogers worked on projects such as the cataloging of Korea Foundation grant books, the Allen Signature Grant project to clear our cataloging backlog in 20th century Chinese publications, and staff training. TEAL librarians continued their outreach programs. During the COVID-19 closure, Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyoung Yi organized two online Booksori sessions.

To help staff communicate and stay connected, TEAL has increased the frequency of its staff meetings from monthly to weekly and also set up a voluntary weekly online lunch hour. To better communicate with our users and communities, TEAL has enhanced its web presence by adding a website for [projects funded by Tateuchi Foundation](#) grants and created a [TEAL News Blog](#). We will periodically post TEAL news and stories to the new blog, as a supplement to this newsletter.

2020 has been a very challenging year, but also a year in which so many people, including our staff, have displayed creativity and extraordinary resilience. COVID-19 still threatens our campus and communities, but TEAL staff will continue working hard to turn such challenges into opportunities and successes.

HIGHLIGHTS

RETURNING TO TEAL: THE FIRST FEW STEPS

by **Le Button**

After six months away, a limited number of staff have been working on-site at the University of Washington's Tateuchi East Asia Library (TEAL). Throughout the COVID-related closure, TEAL staff have been hard at work providing our users access to eBooks, databases, and other electronic resources. Nevertheless, we're glad to have the opportunity to provide you with access to our physical collections once again!

Safety is still very much the order of the day, and UW Libraries staff are taking every precaution they can to minimize the risks to our students, staff, and faculty. Masks and gloves are worn by staff while handling all materials, and quarantine protocols are in place to reduce the likelihood of transmission via returned books. We've also posted signage within the library to ensure that our staff working on-site are following best practices when it comes to hygiene and safety. We don't yet have an estimate for when we will be able to

offer additional services to our users, but at each step along the way, we'll continue doing our best to be mindful of staff and user safety.

Our first order of business upon returning to on-site work at TEAL was clearing the backlog of deliveries and mail that accumulated in our absence. Over 15 bins of mail and 70 boxes of acquisitions sent by vendors from around the world had made their way to TEAL over the past six months. Fortunately, our dedicated staff have already begun the work of processing this backlog, and we hope soon to resume something closer to our typical workflow. We're also heavily involved in support of the UW Libraries No Contact Pick-up Service, ensuring that our interested users can still access the many Chinese, Japanese, and Korean (CJK) titles held by TEAL.

For continued updates on the services that UW Libraries is able to provide, check the Coronavirus update page at <https://www.lib.washington.edu/coronavirus>



Months of overflow mail and book deliveries piled up in the TEAL reading room

A NEW NORMAL: KOREAN COLLECTION CATALOGING DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

by Heija Ryoo



Kyungsuk Yi transporting Korea Foundation books,
September 2020

Back in March, when our campus and its libraries first closed their doors, we had no idea the pandemic would keep us working remotely for so long. How can we cataloging staff do our work with little or no access to physical books? The answer has been to break with the *normal* and implement a *new normal*.

The Tateuchi East Asia Library (TEAL) receives an annual grant from the Korea Foundation to purchase materials to support UW's Korea Studies program. From spring to the end of September, Korean materials staff are usually busy with the ordering, processing, and cataloging of titles purchased through the fund. The report we submit to the Foundation, usually in September, must specify the cataloging status of all materials purchased that fiscal year; hence we make every effort to complete cataloging by then. This year, that would obviously not be easy.

As the Korean Cataloger (on half-time employment), my responsibility is to catalog Korea Foundation grant books first, and then to work on other new acquisition titles. I drew up a plan for our Korean collection team, which also included half-time Korean Acquisitions and

Cataloging Specialist Chuyong Bae and full-time Serials/Biding/Cataloging Specialist Kyungsuk Yi. (Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyoung Yi was on research leave for the 2019-2020 academic year). The three of us met on Zoom to discuss options and work out new procedures.

For the first few weeks after the library's closure, we adapted by taking books home to process. Yet with campus mail no longer delivering new books to the library, these could not be replenished. We continued to confer and collaborate, refining our workflow several times over the following months.

A "new normal" for cataloging began to take shape.

We worked out new procedures in four areas:

1. *Create abbreviated-level cataloging records from orders and invoices*

OCLC, which produces the international online catalog WorldCat, specifies encoding standards for various [levels of cataloging](#), from abbreviated-level to full-level. We usually directly create full-level records. Working remotely without access to physical books, we devised procedures for provisionally creating abbreviated-level records from orders and invoices, supplemented by information from the Korean National Library, the Korean Education and Research Information Service (KERIS), and Korean vendors. We can enhance these to form full-level records as the physical books become available.

2. *Distribute books from campus mail storage to TEAL and staff members' homes*

From late March to June, TEAL requested vendors to halt all book shipments. Books already dispatched, after arrival at UW, were stored centrally by campus mail. However, on one of our biweekly "work pick-up days," Kyungsuk was delighted to discover some new boxes of Korea Foundation books stacked up in TEAL's mail room. Shipped prior to the pandemic, they had been held at campus mail, then deposited at TEAL when storage space ran out. We quickly ferried these to staff members' homes for processing. Thereafter, we arranged for

campus mail to transfer additional Korea Foundation boxes to TEAL; we began to receive those in late September.

3. *Reverse the order of technical processing*

We usually handle the receiving process first—Chuyong’s domain—then catalog later. For the Korea Foundation books cataloging was an urgent priority, so we decided to reverse this order. Kyungsuk collected book boxes on work pick-up days, and, assisted by her husband, would deliver some to my home for cataloging. Once we are able to resume onsite work, we will complete acquisitions receipt processing and marking for these materials.

4. *Catalog by box rather than level or type*

When working onsite, we often assign specific tasks to different people. As the Korean Cataloger, I would normally do only original and complex copy cataloging. Working separately and remotely at home, we adopted a new approach: each person completed the full range of cataloging required for each book in the boxes they received, irrespective of level or type.

It has now been eight months since the pandemic forced us to work from home, and we continue to work with the

“new normal.” We have now completed full-level cataloging for books received before September, and in November will finish all Korea Foundation books for the 2019-2020 fiscal year, the last of which arrived in October. As we gradually return to our offices, we hope to revert to conventional cataloging procedures.

Teamwork and creativity have helped carry us through many difficult challenges this year, including the cataloging of the Korea Foundation grant books. In many cases, it has been necessary to break beyond traditional work flows; such solutions have become our “new normal.”



Korea Foundation books piled in Heija Ryoo’s living room

KOREAN EBOOKS DON'T COME EASY! BUT WE MADE THEM COME!

by **Hyokyung Yi**

One afternoon I received an email from a graduate student, inquiring how to access a Korean book during the closure of library buildings due to COVID-19. I quickly searched the online catalog to see whether the book was available through the HathiTrust Emergency Temporary Access Service, which since last March has provided UW students and faculty with digital access to around 40% of our print titles—including nearly 14,000 Korean titles. Unfortunately that specific title was unavailable, leaving the student with no way to access the book. Even if the student was willing to order the book online from Korea at their own expense, it would take some time to arrive. Interlibrary loan services were at the time limited to

scanning articles or sections of books.

With the flood of e-resources, for some time now libraries have been becoming increasingly virtual. We have come to expect “anywhere, anytime” access to resources. Yet e-resources are not sufficient. The closure of libraries during the pandemic has made it clearer than ever that libraries offer much more than online resources. A librarian and a student who have never imagined a library without print books suddenly felt at a loss. It may be possible to imagine a library without print journals, but not yet one without print books. This applies especially to Korean books.

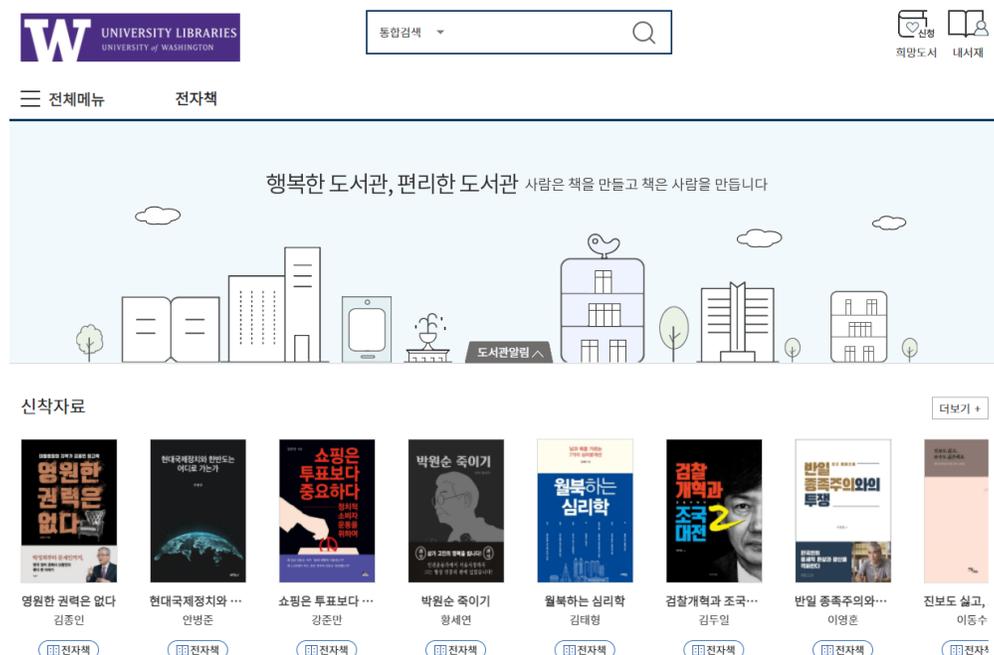
Purchasing Korean eBooks for library collections still presents significant technical and administrative issues, more so than for their Western equivalents. In some cases, titles are sold not individually but within packages with high annual subscription fees beyond our purchasing power. Even if we were to acquire such a package, users could search for titles only from within the platform; they would not appear in the UW Libraries catalog, limiting accessibility. And that's not all. Some eBook vendors require users to download a separate viewer and register individually. Many products are supported only for Windows, lacking Mac OS compatibility. eBook content is also quite limited, especially for academic publications. Even if undeterred by all these constraints, would-be buyers might find the publisher unwilling to sell to institutions, due to lower profit margins. Licensing and other issues also beset Korean eBook purchases.

However, for libraries to just throw up their arms in defeat is not a solution. If eBooks are the only available format while libraries are closed, we have no choice but to turn to eBook platforms, despite the issues mentioned above. With some hesitation and reluctance, I made contact with the Kyobo Book Center, a giant book vendor in Korea, and set up student and faculty access to the

Kyobo eBook platform, our first undertaking of this type. I chose Kyobo over other similar vendors because it offers the largest selection of titles for individual purchase, over 220,000. Using a small gift fund (the Libraries are facing a freeze in book purchasing budgets), I hand-picked a small selection of titles as an initial pilot project. If the platform works well and meets users' needs, I will dedicate a bigger share of our book budget to eBooks in the coming months and years.

I'm excited to offer this new service to our students and faculty, despite its flaws. I would love to hear your feedback on using Kyobo eBooks. There are certainly many advantages to using eBooks, which we can't ignore. You can read them from your PC or mobile phone, anywhere, anytime. You can request and access new titles much more quickly than for print: there is no waiting time for shipping. Libraries also save processing time, since there are no barcodes or labels to attach. eBooks do not suffer from wear and tear, and cannot be lost. I think it is a win-win for users and libraries.

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The Kyobo eBook platform user interface

TATEUCHI RESEARCH METHODS WORKSHOP SERIES: GOING ONLINE

by Ian Chapman

After a partial hiatus in spring, the Tateuchi Research Methods Workshop Series returns to a full—indeed expanded—schedule for the 2020-2021 academic year, albeit in online form.

We continue the two major strands established at the series' founding last year: first, a general series, Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies; and second, separate subseries for each of China/Taiwan, Japan, and Korea studies. Additionally, this year we launch a third set of events, the Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Community Coffee Hour. Each of the three strands meets twice quarterly. In different ways, each aims to promote the sharing of research methodologies and the fostering of vibrant research communities that straddle departments, disciplines, and career stages. Graduate students are the main target audience, though we encourage participation from faculty, staff, and community members. This year's programming is co-organized by Azusa Tanaka, Hyokyung Yi, and Ian Chapman. For event information, check the [TEAL calendar](#) and visit the [series website](#).

The Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies series adopts a new structure this year. Each quarter has a focus theme—for example, textual analysis in autumn 2020 and geospatial analysis in winter 2021—with interconnected events. In the quarter's opening month we host a scholarly talk by an invited speaker, modeling how particular methods can be used in research. In the following month, there is a hands-on workshop on one or more practical skills modeled in the talk. Professors Bo Zhao (Geography) and Clair Yang (Jackson School of International Studies), both of whom use digital methodologies extensively in their research and teaching, have generously offered to serve as faculty consultants.

Autumn programming got off to a successful start with a talk on October 8, 2020, by Dr. Yuta Hashimoto, from the National Museum of Japanese History, entitled “Digital Scholarship in the Study of Historical Japanese



Dr. Yuta Hashimoto discusses “Digital Scholarship in the Study of Historical Japanese Earthquakes” on Zoom

Earthquakes.” Dr. Hashimoto discussed an innovative project in which scholars train dedicated volunteers to transcribe, from the difficult cursive *kuzushiji* script, accounts of earthquakes in premodern historical texts. The digitized records then provide data for longitudinal seismological research. With the aid of Zoom, Dr. Hashimoto gave his talk directly from Japan to an audience of over seventy. To teach practical skills relating to textual analysis, on November 2nd and 9th the UW Libraries' Elliott Stevens and Erika Bailey offered a pair of workshops on TEI (textual encoding initiative), a set of encoding standards used widely in the humanities and social sciences for creating machine-readable text annotations. These were also very well received.

The winter quarter, focusing on geospatial analysis, will feature a talk in January by Professor Bo Zhao from UW's Department of Geography and a workshop in February on ArcGIS StoryMaps, led by UW Libraries Geospatial Data and Maps Librarian Matthew Parsons.

The new Digital Scholarship for East Asian Studies Community Coffee Hour, also held twice per quarter, provides an informal environment for students, faculty, and librarians to share news of their own projects, discuss tools or methodologies, or reflect on readings or our earlier events. Initial meetings in autumn 2020 have proved very stimulating. In the November meeting, Lauren Hwayoung Lee, a Japan Studies PhD student,

shared her research on Japanese newspaper editorials concerning Japan-Korea relations, while Professor Clair Yang introduced a range of digital resources she has found helpful in her research and teaching. Both are based in the Jackson School of International Studies.

Complementing the transnational focus of our digital

scholarship programming, monthly Research Methods workshops for each of Korea, Japan, and China/Taiwan studies delve into resources specific to these regions, juxtaposing new and traditional research methodologies. These are led by TEAL librarians Hyokyoung Yi, Azusa Tanaka, and Ian Chapman respectively.



Erika Bailey and Elliott Stevens presented a two-part workshop on TEI, a set of encoding standards for machine-readable text annotation

EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION DISCUSSIONS AT TEAL

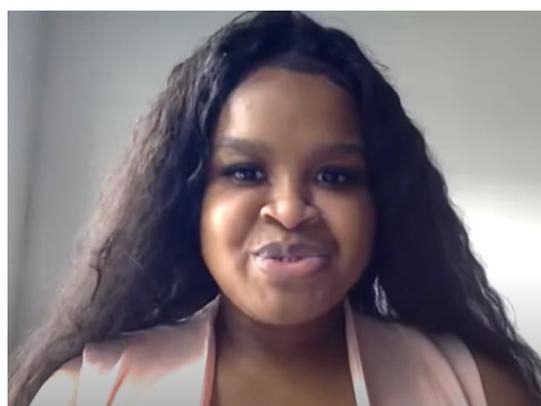
by **Zhijia Shen**

TEAL has initiated an internal discussion series on equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI). Starting on July 6th, we have designated one of our weekly staff meetings each month for discussions about EDI related topics.

Staff are encouraged to recommend readings or videos and to lead a discussion. To date we have completed four sessions. In July, Japanese Studies Librarian Azusa Tanaka led a discussion on an article she co-authored with Juleah Swanson and Isabel Gonzalez-Smith, "[Unpacking Identity: Racial, Ethnic, and Professional Identity and Academic Librarians of Color](#)" (in *The Librarian Stereotype: Deconstructing Perceptions and Presentations of Information Work*, Chicago: Association of College and Research Libraries, 2014). In August, Keiko Hill, Japanese Cataloger/CJK Serials and E-Resources Librarian, recommended and led a discussion of the article "[Understanding the Experiences and Needs of Black Students at Duke](#)," written by librarians from Duke University Libraries. In September, Le Button, TEAL Circulations Supervisor, did the same for the 2020 Association of College and Research Libraries President's Program keynote address "[Shifting the Center: Transforming Academic Libraries through Generous Accountability](#)," by McKensie Mack. This generated such rich discussion that we continued it in our October EDI

session. Our next meeting, to be led by Chinese Cataloging and Metadata Librarian Jian Ping Lee, will focus on Grace Lo's article "['Aliens' vs. Catalogers: Bias in the Library of Congress Subject Heading](#)" (*Legal Reference Services Quarterly*, 38:4 (2019)), a study of discrimination in cataloging authority work and attempts to address it.

TEAL's EDI discussion series has provided a great opportunity for staff to understand and explore the history of and issues surrounding racial discrimination in US library settings, and what we can do to create more equitable, diverse and inclusive environments for all.



TEAL staff discussed McKensie Mack's ACRL keynote address on "transforming academic libraries through generous accountability" (video ©ACRL)

COLLECTIONS

MY RESEARCH TIME WITH KOREAN SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

by **Hyokyung Yi**

I was on professional leave for the 2019-2020 academic year. My main project during this period was to conduct bibliographic analysis of distinctive works from TEAL's collection of Korean publications from the period 1900-1945. This followed up on previous research I had done for an exhibition catalog, published in 2006 by UW's East Asia Library, showcasing 104 unique and rare titles from our Liberation Space period (1945-1950) Korean literary collection: "Between Liberation Space and Time of Need, 1945-1950: An Exhibition of Rare Literary Works from the Korean Collection of the University of Washington Libraries," by Scott H. Swaner.

Research Goal

UW Libraries boasts the second or third largest Korean collection among North American academic libraries, the result of collection building efforts dating back to the early 1940s. We take pride in our extensive holdings in modern Korean literature, thanks to the gift of the collection of S.E. Solberg, an authoritative scholar and translator of Korean literature who served as a UW professor and was also a community activist.

The goal of my research was to examine UW Libraries' pre-1945 Korean collection in terms of its authors, subject matter, time period, history, publication, book arts, and bibliographic classifications. TEAL recently completed the retrospective cataloging of earlier Korean materials from our collection, in the process uncovering over 200 rare titles, many of which were unique among libraries represented in the OCLC WorldCat international union catalog. Targeting these special materials for close study, I set out to compile a selected annotated bibliography with rich description of individual books and their noteworthy characteristics.



Ch'oe Pyŏng-yang 최병양/崔炳亮, Nŭnggŭm: Tongyojip 능금: 동요집 [Apple: A Collection of Children's Songs], 1938

Research Method and Analysis

I selected for thorough assessment over 400 titles published between 1900 and 1945. First, I investigated each work's bibliographic information and determined how widely it is held in US and international libraries. Then, I conducted literature reviews to analyze their significance in Korean literary history, referencing news reports, research articles, books, dissertations, and theses. Through this process, I carefully selected 44 distinctive titles that can represent various periods, subjects, and topics.

For example, I selected seven titles from 1900-1909 representing the early modernization of Korea in the period just prior to Japanese colonization. These include educational dictionaries and textbooks for children, a history book on Vietnam's descent to colonization, a Meiji Japanese politician's social Darwinist treatise on human rights, and one of the earliest travelogues describing a Korean immigrant's experiences in Hawaii.

Works in our collection embody important phases in Korean literary history from 1900 to 1945. Those written between 1910 and 1919 show Korean literature's strong international connections in this period. One stimulus for this was the fact that some Korean writers came under

Japanese surveillance, and had to leave the country to express their thoughts and ideas. They went to China or the United States to publish books freely there. Another was the impact of foreign writers within Korea. In the 1920s, intellectuals busied themselves translating famous literary works from Russia, the United Kingdom, France, and India. Ivan Turgenev, William Shakespeare, and Rabindranath Tagore were among the authors they selected for translation.

The 1930s was a dark era for colonized Korea, with Japanese imperial rulers implementing policies aimed at obliterating Korean culture. However, Korean writers remained active, publishing in diverse genres such as fiction, poetry, folk tales, and children's literature. This period spurred the growth of modern Korean literature. The years from the early 1940s until 1945, when Korea was finally liberated from Japanese rule, saw the emergence of women writers as active contributors to literary culture.

The 44 books I selected for close study, with samples from each decade from 1900 to 1945, tell distinctive stories about each period of Korean literature in the first half of the twentieth century. They represent a history of Korea through books. The works highlight the dynamics of Japanese colonization of Korea through the lens of Korean intellectuals. They also encapsulate the history of modern publishing in Korea. It is interesting to see the variety of books published, from poetry to fiction to cookbooks to language textbooks to travelogues to science books.

The first half of the twentieth century is critical to an understanding of modern Korean literature. Much experimentation with literary forms took place, including in genres such as biography, fable, new fiction, new poetry, and new drama. Modern Korean literature has shown varied aspects reflecting the rapid changes occurring in Korean society.

In my research, I sought to devote time to thoroughly verifying these materials' bibliographical details and clarifying issues regarding their identification. This process involved comparing each item's bibliographic information with catalog records in Korea. For some titles, corrections to our library's catalog descriptions

were necessary. Verifying differences or similarities between various editions always required the inspection of actual physical items. Beyond bibliographical analysis, my research extended to identifying a work's significance and exploring noteworthy cover art, illustrations by unknown artists, the autographs and hand-written memos of famous writers, ardent book collectors' dedications, etc. It was fascinating to discover the traces of the various people who have contributed to the books' creation and transmission.

Outcomes

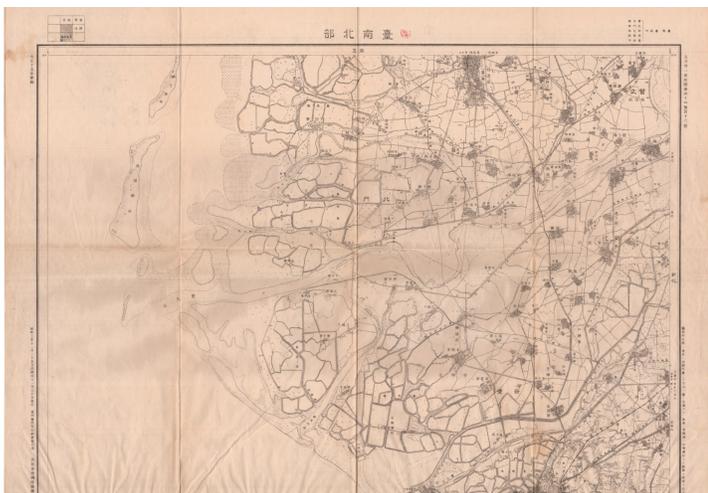
The main product of my research will be a selected annotated bibliography, to be published in book form. Its compilation will contribute to the "master list" of collective knowledge on works already researched and identified in Korea, fill in some remaining gaps, and help recover some of the Korean cultural heritage scattered worldwide. It will improve our understanding of Korean literature in the first half of the twentieth century by telling unique stories revealed by books' collection history and contents, of the kind that only close examination of physical items can reveal. Such research can be conducted only at libraries, such as ours, that possess these rare items. My survey of earlier materials in our collection also identified important preservation and conservation needs. Overall, this project has not only deepened my knowledge of UW's Korean special collections, but will enable us to share those collections with other scholars and researchers worldwide.



Katō Hiroyuki 加藤弘之,
translated by Kim Ch'an 金欖,
Inkwŏn sinsŏl 人權新說
[*New Discourses on Human Rights*], 1908

MAPPING MAPS: CATALOGING UW'S GAIHŌZU COLLECTION

by **Ross Henderson**



Tainan hokubu (Northern Tainan), Surveyed in Taisho 15 (1926) by the Imperial Japanese Army

This summer, I had the pleasure of working as a Student Specialist at the Tateuchi East Asia Library, assisting Japanese subject librarian Azusa Tanaka and cataloger Keiko Hill with various projects. The libraries, like most parts of the University, were closed because of COVID. Unfortunately this meant that I worked remotely for the entire summer. As much as I enjoy the commute between my bed and my desk, the East Asia Library would have been a beautiful space in which to work.

I helped to find bibliographic records for backlogs using a union catalog called OCLC Connexion, and wrote weekly posts for the library's Facebook page. Most of my time, however, was spent with one particular project (also the subject of one of those Facebook posts): Gaihōzu.

Quoting my earlier Facebook post, Gaihōzu are “topographic survey maps of colonially occupied territory created by the Imperial Army General Staff Headquarters, beginning in the 1880s and ending in 1945. Because of their military-strategic nature many were destroyed at the end of the Second World War, making large collections like UW’s very rare.”

My first task with Gaihōzu, as with cataloging Japanese

monographs, was to find bibliographic records created by other institutions. Major holdings can be found at the Library of Congress and a handful of academic libraries, particularly Stanford University. Finding existing records for our uncataloged maps is important both to make sure that the UW collection is cataloged correctly and, critically, so that UW’s items can be searchable in the international union catalog WorldCat. I’m a graduate student, so in a sense searching for things in library catalogs is my job. I thought that it would be easy. It was not.

Note the length of time during which Gaihōzu were produced: more than sixty years, the entire stretch of the Japanese state’s colonial campaigning. As conditions and strategic interests changed, many areas were surveyed repeatedly. Sometimes a different name would be applied to the same area and, more frustratingly, the numbering system used by the surveyors themselves to designate maps went through a number of iterations, making it difficult to understand how individual map areas relate to each other in space. What’s more, no two libraries catalog their Gaihōzu in exactly the same way. This isn’t sloppiness on the part of catalogers. All standard cataloging procedures are followed, but libraries are still in the process of working together to determine how best to make Gaihōzu accessible while still keeping track of the large amount of information on each individual map. This is further complicated by the fact that Gaihōzu were meant to be used, and many of the printed maps have strategically sensitive information written in later by hand, adding another layer of complication to the cataloging process.

Within the Gaihōzu cataloging project, I dug most deeply into maps of Manchuria, particularly a certain series at 1:100,000 scale. Stanford also has a sizable number of this series in their collection, and make them conveniently browsable on an interactive map through their library’s website. I was asked to compare our holdings with Stanford’s to see how they complement each other, but immediately encountered all the

problems discussed above. I could see the Stanford maps, but had to rely on data in a spreadsheet for the UW collection as I had no access to the actual maps while the libraries were closed due to the pandemic. Though much of the information matched neatly, I began to notice that seemingly identical maps—with matching place names and geographic coordinates—used different numbering systems. It was apparent that these systems were, well, systematic, but not at all clear how they related to one another. There must be a code, I thought, and cracking it became a fixation.

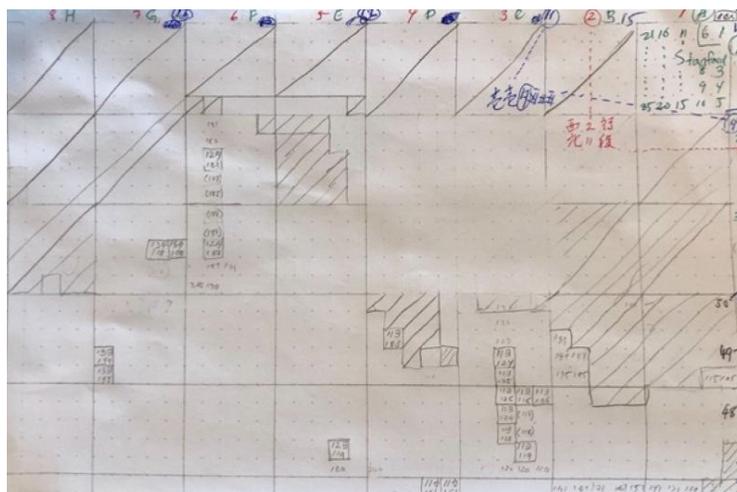
Examining Stanford's digital index, I saw that the maps were grouped individually and numbered into squares of twenty-five (5x5). Stanford laid out these maps in a simple grid, letters on one axis and numbers on the other, giving maps designations like D-3-12. The Japanese Imperial Army, however, used three different schemas. Briefly: 1) A larger area was named, and each map was numbered: Harbin 15 (哈爾濱十五號). 2) To that could be added coordinates that seem clear enough, but weren't indexed to latitude and longitude: W4N10 (西四行北十段). It seemed that one area designation corresponded to one set of coordinates, but it wasn't clear how big that area was. 3) The last system was the most mysterious. Two numbers were given in "daiji" 大字 alternative-form kanji numerals, followed by a katakana character, and then three conventional kanji numbers: 壹壹夕一〇七.

Remembering how I used to use graph paper to keep

track of videogame maps when I was young, I decided to do the same thing, using Stanford's grid as a base and noting down the number of each map in whatever system it used once I had pinpointed its location. Slowly but surely—but slowly—the pattern revealed itself. Whether or not named areas had W#N# coordinates didn't matter. They were part of the same system. These coordinates also mapped neatly onto Stanford's system. A-1 was W1N12, B-2 was W2N11, and so on. West and East were measured from the 135th meridian east, the line from which Japanese standard time is measured. Each of these larger squares corresponded to a named and numbered group of twenty-five maps.

The last system, which used kanji numbers in two different formats, also fit onto the same grid. The *daiji* numbers and katakana characters designated 10x10 groups of 100 maps, corresponding to four of the smaller 5x5 areas mapped by Stanford's and the W#N# system. Most interestingly, the katakana that had seemed random in fact proceeded from south to north in i-ro-ha order. I was even able to figure out how these different systems related to latitude and longitude, an added bonus. (It appears that the i-ro-ha start at 3°20' North, rather than the equator, but this is far outside the range of the maps I was working from and I may have miscalculated.)

Of course, I hope that making these correspondences clear will help researchers and catalogers in the future, but more than anything this was an exceedingly satisfying puzzle to solve.



The hand-drawn grid I created to chart the spatial relationships of mapped areas and to crack the "code" of their numbering schemas

BACKLOG CATALOGING FROM HOME

by **Keiko Hill**

After COVID-19 hit us early in spring, we started working remotely from home. Not only was working at the office prohibited, dropping in to pick up materials was tightly restricted. For people like me who do not own a car, taking home heavy books is not easy. So, catalogers took pictures of materials and cataloged them from home. Ideally, we would look through each item page by page, so that we don't miss an illustration or bibliographic reference, and most importantly, so that we can get a good idea of the item's subject matter, which can't always be gleaned from the table of contents. However, taking pictures to retrieve such information is very time consuming. So, I took pictures of the spines of books laid out on carts, eight shelves of books in total.

This summer I was fortunate to have Ross Henderson, a graduate student assistant, help me with Japanese backlog cataloging. First, I shared pictures of the books with him through Google photos. After I gave him some training, via Zoom, on how to search bibliographic records in our main cataloging tool OCLC Connexion, he searched for matching records based on information

displayed on book spines, such as title, author or editor's name, publisher, and so on. Ross is detail-oriented, proficient at reading Chinese characters, and fluent in Japanese. He closely examined each photograph, logged questions and notes in a spreadsheet, and saved over 300 potentially matching records. Around 40 of these were full-level records, suitable models for copy cataloging. For the remaining books, we will need to verify and enhance incomplete records or create new ones after we examine the physical items at the library.



Book shelf photo with graphic annotations for use in preliminary cataloging

REACHING OUT TO OUR COMMUNITIES

LAUNCH OF TEAL NEWS BLOG

by **Ian Chapman**

TEAL has for years used this newsletter to keep our cherished users and friends up to date with news and activities, and will continue to do so. We've also established a social media presence, on platforms like Facebook and Twitter. Recently we've added another channel for sharing information: a [TEAL News Blog](#). Some articles will appear in both the blog and the newsletter, but often in the former first. So to keep up to date with TEAL developments, check our blog for new posts.

We welcome contributions from our users, on any topic connected to the library or East Asia research resources – please get in touch if you have an idea for an article (ichapman@uw.edu).

Thanks to Le Button for his work setting up the blog before moving to Oregon.

Tateuchi East Asia Library: News and Projects

Home Tateuchi East Asia Library News and Projects News

News

November 18, 2020

A New Normal: Korean Collection Cataloging during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Hejira Ryoo (Korean Cataloger, Tateuchi East Asia Library) Back in March, when our campus and its libraries first closed their doors, we had no idea the pandemic would keep us working remotely for so long. How can we cataloging staff do our work with little or no access to physical books? The answer has been...

[Read more](#) →

October 17, 2020

Returning to TEAL: The First Few Steps



After six months away, a limited number of staff have been working on-site at the University of Washington's Tateuchi East Asia Library (TEAL). Throughout the COVID-related closure, TEAL staff have been hard at work providing our users access to ebooks, databases, and other electronic resources. Nevertheless, we're

glad to have the opportunity to provide you...

[Read more](#) →

VIRTUAL BOOKSORI

by **Hyokyoung Yi**

Booksori, TEAL's long-running series of Korean book talks, has typically been held on a monthly basis. While on research leave during the 2019-2020 academic year, I initially offered it on a quarterly basis, holding sessions in autumn 2019 and winter 2020. But even that reduced schedule was disrupted in March 2020 when our library buildings closed due to COVID-19.

To adapt to the new circumstances, I decided to take Booksori online, in the process revamping the format. Previously I would invite a speaker to talk to a live audience in our library. The online version adopts an interview or Q&A format, in which I, as the host, discuss a book with an invited guest. I think this has resulted in deeper and more critical discussions, and places the focus on a highly acclaimed book rather than a particular speaker. The recorded exchange, held on Zoom, is uploaded to YouTube for a wider Booksori audience. This allows us to engage with speakers and audiences from around the world.

The [first Zoom-based Booksori](#), recorded in August 2020, was about a new novel *Ilgap hae ūi majimak* 일곱해의 마지막 (*The End of Seven Years*) by Yeon-su Kim 김연수, who featured at a Booksori event in August 2018. Joining me to discuss the book was Jungwon Hwang 황정원, a Seattle-based Korean poet; her experiences as a poet helped illuminate important aspects of the novel, which was based on the life of the famous North Korean poet Sok Paek 백석 (1912-1996).

The [second Zoom Booksori](#) was held in late October 2020. This featured a book called *Seollyang han chabyeoljuuija* 선량한 차별주의자 (*A Good Racist*) by Ji-hye Kim 김지혜, a JD from UW Law School and now a professor at Gangneung Wonju National University. This discusses unconscious forms of racism and other types of bias, and has recently sparked much debate in Korea. The interviewee, Prof. Chong Eun Ahn 안종은, earned her PhD in history from UW and is now a professor at Central Washington University. She joined the session from Korea, where she is spending her sabbatical year.



Chong Eun Ahn (L) and Hyokyoung Yi link up via Zoom to discuss the book *A Good Racist*, October 2020

TEAL PEOPLE

A FOND FAREWELL

LE BUTTON ACCEPTS LIBRARIAN POSITION AT DESCHUTES PUBLIC LIBRARY, BEND, OR

October 15th, 2020

Le Button, TEAL Circulations and Marking Supervisor, has accepted a position as Collection Development Librarian with Deschutes Public Library in Bend, Oregon. On his last day at TEAL, October 15th, our staff threw Le an online lunchtime farewell party, joined by many colleagues from the Suzzallo-Allen Library. Le is a longtime Husky, with a BS in Speech and Hearing Sciences in 2012 and Master of Library and Information Science from the iSchool in 2018. He joined TEAL in August 2018, bringing two years of valuable work experience at Central Circulations in Suzzallo-Allen. In his two years here at TEAL, Le has given so much to our library and been an excellent team member. We are sad to see him go, but congratulate him on this new opportunity, and wish him every success.



APPOINTMENTS

SHUQI YE JOINS TEAL AS LIBRARY INTERN



September 21, 2020

Shuqi Ye has joined the TEAL team as a library intern from September 21st, 2020, to June 30th, 2021, in a half-time, temporary, grant-funded position. Shuqi completed her Master of Library and Information Science from UW's iSchool in June 2020. While at the iSchool, she worked for two years as a student assistant at TEAL. She excelled in her work and was a winner of the 2020 UW Libraries Student Scholarship. In addition to her library degree, Shuqi holds a BA in Chinese language and an MA in Chinese philosophy from Fudan University in Shanghai, China. She will be working closely with Jian Ping Lee on the TEAL Chinese pre-cat cataloging project. We are delighted to have her back. She can be reached by email at yeshuqi@uw.edu. Please join us in welcoming Shuqi.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

HYOKYOUNG YI RETURNS FROM RESEARCH LEAVE

Head of Public Services and Korean Studies Librarian Hyokyoung Yi completed her one-year research leave and returned to the library on September 1st, 2020. During her leave, she worked on compiling an annotated bibliography of Korean special collections published before 1945, to be published in book form in Korea (see Hyokyoung's article above). In Hyokyoung's absence, Kyungsuk Yi took on the responsibilities of Korean reference work and library instruction, while Zhijia Shen took over the supervision of TEAL's Public Services. We extend special thanks to TEAL colleagues for their cooperation and support.



YAN ZHU JOINS UW LIBRARIES' GOLD PROGRAM



Thanks to the support of the library director and my supervisor, I have had the opportunity to participate in the 2020-2021 GOLD program for library employee development. "GOLD" stands for Growth, Opportunity, Learning, and Development. The program consists of seven full-day and one half-day sessions from September 2020 to April 2021. Due to COVID-19, this year all coursework is online. Twelve library staff from different departments and campuses are participating in this year's program.

Before beginning the program, I met with the Program Administrators to set my personal goals. So far, I've completed the first two courses. On September 30 we attended a workshop on active listening with instructor Olisa Enrico. In this workshop we learned that everyone has biases. Active listening skills can help us to improve our communication. In the October 23 Dependable Strengths class, the instructor Jackie Wolfe guided us on how to uncover what we do best and learn new ways to use our unique areas of excellence.

Through the program, I have learned much about myself and the art of communication. It has strengthened my confidence and improved my self-management and interpersonal skills. It's also nice to make new friends from other units and learn from each other. I'm looking forward to the rest of the courses. I believe this program can help me to grow and serve TEAL better.



Some GOLD program assigned readings



Tateuchi East Asia Library Beckmann Reading Room. Photograph by Taewoong Kang.

THE TEAL NEWSLETTER AND BLOG WELCOME YOUR SUBMISSIONS!

Do you use the Tateuchi East Asia Library? Do you have anything to share about your experiences here? Have you used materials from TEAL in your research or other project? Or do you have another library-related story? *We want to hear from you!*

For article and submission guidelines, see here: www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news/newsletter-submissions.

We look forward to seeing your byline in an upcoming issue!

ABOUT THE TEAL NEWSLETTER

The Tateuchi East Asia Library Newsletter is produced by TEAL librarians and staff. Inquiries concerning content and subscription requests may be directed to the editor, Ian Chapman, at ichapman@uw.edu.

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Current and back issues of the TEAL Newsletter are available online at www.lib.washington.edu/east-asia/news



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