

匹茲堡大學東亞圖書館

The University Library System (ULS) at the University of Pittsburgh's

EAST ASIAN LIBRARY Chinese Collection

About the East Asian Library

The University Library System (ULS) at the University of Pittsburgh began its Chinese collection in 1960 after it was selected as one of the twenty National Defense Education Act centers for Chinese studies. Five years later, the East Asian Library (EAL) was established to include also the Japanese collection. The Korean materials were added to the collection from 2000. Today, the EAL has become one of the most prominent East Asian collections in North America with over 375,900 volumes of monographs, about 1,200 titles of periodicals, around 8,900 reels of microfilms, over 25 current newspapers, 1,650 multi-media resources, and 8 major area studies online databases. As of June 2005, the library ranks the 14th in size among more than 80 East Asian collections in North America and is the largest and the major resource center in the Tri-state area (Pennsylvania, Ohio, and West Virginia). The library's primary mission is to support the Asian Studies Center for instruction and research in Chinese, Japanese and Korean studies.

The EAL Chinese Collection

The EAL consists of four collections—Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and English languages. With over 240,000 volumes of Chinese monographic volume holdings, 755 current serial titles, and other resources, the Chinese collection ranks the 13th in North America. The Chinese collection has notable strengths in traditional Chinese literature, philosophy, and history. Other areas of strength are Chinese classics and religion, Ming and Qing gazetteers, local histories, and imperial court archives. With an increasing emphasis on modern China, the collection contains



relatively comprehensive publications of Chinese yearbooks, statistics, and Cultural Revolution publications.

The Chinese collection supports major research and teaching activities concerning China in several disciplines: anthropology, business, classics, East Asian languages and literatures, economics, fine arts, history, law, linguistics, music, political science, religious studies, and sociology.

The East Asian Gateway Service

One of the EAL's most successful and well-known programs is the East Asian Gateway Service (EAGS). The EAGS was established in October 1998 by a grant from the U.S. Federal Institute of Museum and Library Services. Since October 2001, the EAGS has been financially supported by

EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

the ULS. The EAGS is a pioneer for developing a transcontinental interlibrary partnership.

The EAGS, administered by the EAL of the ULS, focuses on free delivery of full-text Chinese and Korean language academic publications to researchers. The EAGS delivers Chinese documents to any individual researchers for research and teaching purpose or non-profit organizations who cannot find the needed item in any U.S. libraries. The service is also reciprocal, as the ULS provides document delivery service of English language materials to its Chinese library partners.

In the past eight years, the EAGS has succeeded in not only providing an effective research support to thousands of China scholars in the United States and researchers and scientists in China, but also in creating an extensive partnership with 11 academic libraries in Mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan, including libraries of Tsinghua University, Peking University, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Fudan University, Wuhan University, Nanjing University, Sichuan University, Chinese University of Hong Kong, National Science Library, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Shanghai Information Center for Life Sciences, CAS, and Fu Ssu-nien Library of Academia Sinica in Taiwan. According to the EAGS' statistics, from 1999 to 2005, it received a total number of 11,500 requests; since 2003, more than half of the requests are from the partner libraries in China. The geographical map of the EAGS's U.S.-based users covers forty states, more than one hundred thirty colleges and universities, and many other organizations.

U.S.—China Librarian Training and Exchange

To further strengthen connections with its partners from China, the ULS has secured funding from various sources to bring librarians from three Chinese partner libraries to the University of Pittsburgh and to send ULS librarians to China through the librarian training and exchange program. The ULS has also hosted visiting scholars financially supported by Chinese government and other sources. Since the fall of 1997, thirty Chinese librarians and library school faculty members

from 13 different research institutes have been trained each for a period ranging from 3 months to 12 months. These Chinese library professionals have gone through hands-on training in the areas of information technology, user services, technical processing, and library management at the ULS in conjunction with research and course work at School of Information Sciences. The EAL in cooperation with the ULS, has been administering and coordinating the U.S.- China librarian training and exchange program since its inception.

Outreach Activities

The EAL has actively participated in on-campus and local community events to showcase library services and resources. Highlights of outreach activities include coordinating the International Week and Asian Studies Center display booths at various events, supporting Chinese School of Pittsburgh, Organization of Asian Americans, Chinese Association for Science and Technology, Chinese Scholars Organization, hosting several exhibitions about Chinese cultures and language such as Chinese Paper Cutting, In Commemoration of the 600th Anniversary of Zheng He's West Voyages (1405-1433), and the Origins of Chinese Script, and participating in annual Dragon Boat Festival organized by the Pittsburgh City since 2002.

Contact the EAL:

University of Pittsburgh

University Library System, East Asian Library

3960 Forbes Avenue

207 Hillman Library

Pittsburgh, PA 15260

Main Office: 412-648-8185

Reference: 412-648-7708

Fax: 412-648-7683

www.library.pitt.edu/libraries/eal/index.htm

