

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SINOLOGICAL LIBRARIANS (EASL)

Minutes of the Thirty-first Annual Conference
Prague, 7-9 September 2011

The thirty-first EASL conference was hosted by Chiang Ching-kuo International Sinological Centre, Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic from 7 to 9 September 2011. The meetings were chaired by Maja Fuchs.

During the conference, two library visits, one presentation and a reception were organised by the local host. The reception was held at the conference venue on Wednesday evening. Before the reception there was a presentation of Mongolian and Tibetan xylographs by Ondřej Srba. There was a visit to the National Library of the Czech Republic where members were shown the famous Klementinum and the Library's Department of Rare books on Thursday morning. On Thursday afternoon members visited the Lu Xun Library at the Oriental Institute where they were given a presentation on the Library and its history by Ondřej Srba and Jan Luffer. The farewell dinner took place on Friday evening at the Piano Terra restaurant.

Present

• Members

Inga-Lill **Blomkvist** (Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Denmark)

Barbara **Bonazzi** (École française d'Extrême-Orient, France)

Hiroko **Brittain** (The British Library, Boston Spa)

Alice **De Jong** (East Asian Library, Leiden University)

Katarína **Feriančíková** (Institute of East Asian Studies Library; Chiang Ching-kuo International Sinological Centre, Charles University, Prague)

Jarmila **Fiurášková** (Department of Asian Studies, Palacky University, Olomouc)

Maja **Fuchs** (Library of East Asian Studies / Sinology, University of Vienna)

Marc **Gilbert** (Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon)

David **Helliwell** (Bodleian Library, Oxford University)

Bénédicte **Héraud** (Centre d'études sur la Chine moderne et contemporaine, L'école des hautes études en sciences sociales, Paris)

Kerstin **Herelius** (Uppsala University Library)

Xiyi **Huang** (Leeds University Library)

Matthias **Kaun** (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin)

Anne **Labitzky-Wagner** (Heidelberg University)

Hanno **Lecher** (Heidelberg University)

Bent **Lerbaek Pedersen** (Royal Library, Copenhagen)

Jan **Luffer** (Oriental Institute, Academy of Science, Prague)

Fung On **Lui** (Library of the Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-University)

Imke **Mees** (Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst, Köln)

Inga **Nyman Ambrosiani** (Asian Library, Stockholm University Library)

Martina **Siebert** (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin)

Ondřej **Srba** (Institute of South and Central Asia, Faculty of Arts, Charles University, Prague)

Soline **Suchet** (BULAC - La Bibliothèque universitaire des langues et civilisations)

Erik **Svanström** (Humanities and Theology Libraries, Lund University; Nordic Institute of Asian Studies, Denmark)

Thomas **Tabery** (Bavarian State Library, Munich, Germany)

Katharina **Thölen** (Chinese Studies Library, Universität Zürich)

Shenxiao **Tong** (Edinburgh University Library)

Wai-hing **Tse** (School of Oriental and African Studies Library (SOAS), University of London)

Benedicte, **Vaerman** (Oost-Aziatische Bibliotheek, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven)

Marc **Winter** (Institute of East Asian Studies, University of Zürich)

• Vendors

Jason **Dai** (WanFang Data Co., Ltd., China)

Simona **Han** (CNKI, China)

Wang Xiaosen (China Data Center, University of Michigan)

Xiao Zhifei (China Int'l Book Trading Corp.)

Zhang Yimin (CNKI, China)

Apologies

Valentina **De Monte** (Bibliothèque municipale de Lyon)

Táňa **Dluhošová** (Centre for the Study of Religion in China and Japan, Masaryk University)

Graham **Hutt** (British Library)

Vera **Mikhaylova** (National Library, Prague)

Andreas **Mixius** (German National Library of Science & Technology)

Delphine **Spicq** (Institute des hautes études chinoises, Collège de France, Paris)

Annie **Troedsson** (Library of Social and Behavioural Sciences, Lund University)

ACTA

1. Chairman's address and the welcome speech by the host institution

Maja Fuchs opened the conference by thanking the local host for organising the conference, followed by a warm welcome speech by **Professor Olga Lomová, head of the Chiang Ching-kuo International Sinological Centre**.

Maja Fuchs then extended her warm welcome to all the participants and especially to members Thomas Tabery, Martina Siebert and Marc Winter who joined the conference for the first time.

2. Minutes of the previous EASL conference and member reports

The minutes of the 30th EASL conference were approved.

3. Treasurer's report

Anne Labitzky-Wagner presented her Treasurer's report. There was an increase of €9.30 in the form of interest for 2010. As German banks calculate interests for the entire fiscal year – 1st January 1st to 31st December, the interests that have been accumulated in 2011 will be shown in next year's report. The total balance is €1,869.91.

4. Report on conferences

4.1. Conference in Changsha on digitisation of historical newspapers

Matthias Kaun reported that he participated, as co-organiser and on behalf of EASL, in the above conference organised by Green Apple in October 2010. One of the major historical newspapers in the program for digitisation is *Shenbao*. The project is expected to be completed in three years costing US\$15,000 with 75 years coverage. David Helliwell also read a paper at this conference.

4.2. China in the Nordic countries, The Nordic countries in China, Stockholm 9-10 June, 2011

The conference was filmed and can be watched following this link:

<http://tinyurl.com/86yyy5m>

4.3. CNKI International Seminar on Digital Publishing and Digital Libraries, Beijing Aug. 29 – Sept. 3, 2011

http://gb.oversea.cnki.net/kns55/2011_Seminar/gb/Default.htm

4.4. CEAL Conference, Hawaii March 2011. Matthias Kaun reported that he met some American colleagues that showed interest in coming to EASL next year.

5. Vendor presentations

The following vendors gave presentations about their resources:

- Tongfang CNKI (Simona Han)
- Wanfang Data (Jason Dai) -- *Wanfang Data and China Electronic Resources*
- China Data Center (Wang Xiaosen) -- *Introduction to China Data Online Service*

6. Presentations of EASL members

The following presentations were given by members:

- Katarína Feriančíková – *Books about China in scanned card catalogue of the National Library and infoportal*
- Thomas Tabery – *Retro-conversion of the Chinese card catalogues of the Bavarian State Library*

- Soline Suchet – *Bibliothèque des Langues et Civilisations (Bulac)*
- Martina Siebert – *Evaluation of late-Qing databases and Minguo Periodicals (Beitu, Dacheng, Shanghai tushuguan)*
- Barbara Bonazzi – *The online publications of the EFEO*
- Marc Winter – *The development of si bu fenlei fa*

These presentations will be posted on the EASL website for members to access.

7. Discussions on EASL affairs

7.1. Database trials

It was decided that database trials will no longer be arranged by the Secretary. If EASL is offered trials they will be passed on to the members via our mailing list by the Secretary.

7.2. Collaboration on e-resources

Following Matthias Kaun's presentation: "Cross Asia – results of country licenses; a European perspective, news from China" which included his recently negotiated consortium packages, there was a follow up from the coordinators that were elected last year to inquire the possibility to establish national or regional consortiums. The general consensus was that digital resources within Cross Asia are licensed for members of German institutions only; it is not possible to extend use to users from other countries, each country would have to get a license, or try to form a consortium.. Matthias Kaun offered advice for negotiations.

7.3. EASL Rules

It was decided that the Chairwoman and the Secretary put together a few points for their own reference and to continually add whenever necessary.

7.4. Common European OPAC entry for Chinese resources

Matthias Kaun welcomes all libraries with Asian studies related materials to join CrossAsia MetaSearch.

<http://crossasia.org/en/search.html>

7.5. Extend invitation to non-European libraries

It was decided that for next year's conference our invitations will extend to include non-European libraries as well as European. If it turns out well this practice will continue.

7.6. EASL webpage workgroup

The EASL webpage has not been updated for some time and is in need of a redesign. A workgroup was appointed for this and it consists of the following members:

Katharina Thölen (Convenor)
Soline Suchet
Katarína Feriančíková
Alice De Jong
Matthias Kaun
Barbara Bonazzi
Erik Svanström

8. Elections

The meeting accepted that Maja Fuchs, Erik Svanström and Anne Labitzky-Wagner would continue as Chairwoman, Secretary and Treasurer.

9. Next conference

Thanks to Soline Suchet's invitation, the thirty-second annual EASL conference will be held Tuesday 4th to Thursday 6th September 2012 at the Bibliothèque des Langues et Civilisations (Bulac), Paris, France.

This conference will be special as we will hold it together with EACS. The cooperation will allow us to have an EASL panel during the EACS conference. The EACS conference dates are, Wednesday 5th to Saturday 8th September.

For more information on the EACS part, please see:

<http://www.univ-paris-diderot.fr/eacs-easl/>

The thirty-first EASL conference closed with an expression of thanks to Katarína Feriančíková and her colleagues for their excellent arrangements.

Erik Svanström
EASL Secretary
24 February 2012, Lund