About Our Contributors

J. S. Edgren is editorial director of the Chinese Rare Books project, an online, union catalogue based at Princeton University. Besides research on Chinese bibliography and the history of printing in East Asia, he has compiled catalogues of collections and exhibitions and is writing a book on the history of the book in China.

Michael Emmerich teaches Japanese literature and cultural studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. He is currently at work on a book manuscript dealing with the Tale of Genji and its canonization through translation as a classic of world and national literature. He is the translator of over a dozen books from Japanese.

Kojiro Hirose, who earned his BA, MA, and Litt.D. from Kyoto University, is associate professor in the Department of Cultural Research at the National Museum of Ethnology, Osaka, Japan. He is currently conducting field research in the history of new religions in modern Japan and on biwa-hōshi (blind minstrels) and itako (blind shamen). His new anthropological study on the culture of the handicapped ties in with his promotion of “barrier-free” or “universal-design” organization of museums. Hirose’s most recent exhibit, on display from 13 August to 24 November 2009 at the National Museum of Ethnology, was a commemoration the two hundredth anniversary of the birth of Louis Braille. He has authored several articles in English and in Japanese, given many talks, travels widely in Japan and internationally, and is a serious practitioner of martial arts.
Bruce Swanson (1937–2007), with his undergraduate major in Latin, rose to the rank of commander in the U.S. Navy before retiring to begin a second, nearly twenty-year-long career consulting for industry. It was during his research for Eighth Voyage of the Dragon: A History of China’s Quest for Seapower (Annapolis: Naval Institute Press, 1982) that Bruce first encountered Irvin Van Gorder Gillis and his role in China’s pursuit of a modern navy.

Nancy Norton Tomasko has worked with the East Asian Library Journal since 1997, first as associate editor and then, beginning in 2000, as editor.
The Friends of the Gest Library is a group of private individuals dedicated to the idea that an East Asian library resource like the Gest Oriental Library (the East Asian Research Library at Princeton University) must be known, supported, and encouraged in order to enrich both the aesthetic knowledge of East Asia and the growth of scholarship and contemporary information concerning that part of the world. Many individuals have already been active for years in guiding the Gest Library, and contributing their time and resources ad hoc. In 1986 they formed the Friends of the Gest Library in order to broaden the Library’s support and foster communication among other interested parties.

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