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# From the Editor

## VISITORS TO THE LIBRARY

From late July 1992 to early February 1993, the Gest Library welcomed over fifty visitors, researchers, and professors from the United States and abroad. Among the visitors in July were Ch'en Kuei-fen and Chang Hsiu-ling from the library of Taiwan Normal University. In August, five officials from the National Committee of Education, China, visited the library: Teng Teng, vice-chairman of the committee; Wang Keshi; Cai Keyong; Ma Li; and Tian Xiaogang. In the same month, Xie Qigang, education consul from the Chinese embassy in Washington, D.C., also visited our library. From late August to the end of 1992, the distinguished visitors were mainly professors: Dr. Li T'ien-min of the Institute of East Asian Studies, National Chengchi University; Dr. Satō Kazuhiko of the University of Arts and Sciences, Tokyo; Dr. Liu Chin-ch'ing of the University of Economics, Tokyo; Dr. Mitani Hiroshi of Tokyo University; Dr. Takeuchi Haruhisa of the Japan Institute of International Studies; and Dr. Li Lin-ch'in of the history department, Monashi University, Australia. During these four months, the library also welcomed Okumura Yoshirō, librarian of Waseda University; Wang Ming-lin of the National Central Library, Taipei; Li Ling-yün of the Center for Chinese Studies, Taipei; and three officials from the Japan Foundation: Asao Shinichirō, Hamanishi Eiichi, and Oshida Yukō. In early 1993, Professors Victor H. Mai of the University of Pennsylvania and Alice Y. Chai of the University of Hawaii visited our library. We also received two visitors from China: He Ling-yung of the Center for Demographic Studies, Peking, and Xu Wen-kan of the China Publishing Company of Reference Works.

## THE CONTRIBUTORS

Sören Edgren is editorial director of the Research Libraries Group Chinese Rare Books Project, which is located in the Gest Library at Princeton University. Dr. Edgren received his Ph.D. in sinology from the University of Stockholm. A specialist on Oriental books, Dr. Edgren is no stranger to the journal. He has already contributed two articles: "The *Ching-ying hsiao-sheng*

and Traditional Illustrated Biographies of Women,” which appeared in the special issue *East Asian Women: Materials and Library Research* (Winter 1992), and “Comments on Professor Cui’s Articles” in the 1993 spring issue. Readers were introduced to Dr. Edgren’s scholarly activities and achievements in greater detail in the special issue.

Wu Yiyi received his M.A. degree from East China Normal University in 1981. He taught at the university for three years before coming to Princeton to pursue his doctorate. In Princeton he specialized in the history of science and received his Ph.D. degree from the Department of History in 1989. He then conducted postdoctoral research for one year at the University of Pennsylvania. He now works as a resource specialist for the New York City Board of Education. Dr. Wu has five Chinese articles on the history of science to his credit. His most recent work is “The Origin and Development of the Ho-chien and the Tan-hsi Schools of Medical Science” (*Hsi-ho suo-yüan*) published in the *Hsin shih-hsüeh* 3.4 (1992), pp. 57–94. He is now writing a book entitled “Thomas Kuhn: The Philosophical Implications of the History of Science” (“T’o-ma-ssu K’u-en: K’o-hsüeh shih te che-hsüeh i-i”) to be published by the San-min shu-chü, Taiwan.

Ruowi Yang is an associate professor of Chinese history at Peking University. She received her B.A. and M.A. from Liaoning University, and her Ph.D. from Peking University. Dr. Yang is a specialist in the history and religion of the minorities of northeast China. Her recently published doctoral dissertation, *A Study of the Political and Military Systems of the Khitan Dynasty (916–1125)* (*Ch’i-tan cheng-chih chün-shih chih-tu yen-chiu*; Peking: Chung-kuo she-hui k’o-hsüeh ch’u-pan-she, 1990), is widely regarded as the best recent study on Khitan society. She is the author or co-author of fifteen Chinese articles and other works on the history of the Liao dynasty, and has also translated two Japanese books into Chinese. In 1991 Dr. Yang was a visiting scholar at Concordia University in Montreal. In 1992, she won the prestigious Wenner-Gren Foundation scholarship in cultural anthropology and conducted postdoctoral research at the University of Washington.

Chuang Shen obtained his M.A. degree from Princeton University in 1964. He taught at the University of Hong Kong from 1965 to 1988, and was founding chairman of the Department of Fine Arts. He was a visiting professor at National Taiwan University during 1971–1972 and at Arizona State Uni-

versity during 1981–1982. Since his early retirement from the University of Hong Kong in 1988, he has been a research fellow at the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, in Taiwan. His major fields are Chinese art history and the history of daily life in T'ang China.

David Helliwell writes for this issue a review article concerning the catalogue of the exhibition “Impressions de Chine” published by the Bibliothèque Nationale in Paris late in 1992. The exhibition, and its superbly produced catalogue, are important events in the East Asian scholarly world, as Dr. Helliwell’s review makes clear. Dr. Helliwell is a distinguished sinologist; librarian of the Department of Oriental Books at the Bodleian Library, Oxford; and secretary of the European Association of Sinological Librarians. In the last capacity he led a delegation of his European colleagues to this country in 1992 to attend the meeting of the Committee on East Asian Libraries of the Association for Asian Studies, and to visit several American libraries, including the Gest Library at Princeton.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Upon the completion of the preparation for this winter issue, the editor must acknowledge his indebtedness to the following persons for their timely support: Hsiang Nan, fellow of the Institute of History, Social Sciences Academy, Liaoning Province, provided us with the photographs of the Liao epitaphs, some of which have never before been published in China or the West. The National Palace Museum in Taiwan kindly allowed the journal to publish photographs of four rare books and a portrait in its possession. Mrs. Soowon Y. Kim, Japanese and Korean bibliographer of the Gest Library, offered her expert knowledge on nineteenth-century Japanese medical works. Mr. Zhou Jian-yu, a doctoral candidate in the Department of East Asian Studies, Princeton University, helped with the production of some illustrations. Mr. Antony Marr, curator of the Gest Library, informed the editor of recent activities in the library.

#### ROMANIZATION STYLE

Beginning with this issue of the *Gest Library Journal*, authors may use either Pinyin or Wade-Giles for romanization.