News from the

Asia Library Japanese Studies Collection

New Japanese copy cataloger, Ms. Etsuko Kosuge, joined us in April 2017. She brings her expertise from experience working in professional organizations to the task of efficiently processing a growing number of new acquisitions.

The growing collection continues to form a sturdy foundation for scholarship and education. We have added 6,511 monograph titles and 7,760 volumes to the collection, which now totals 349,680 monograph volumes including E-books. Since 2012 we have paid special attention to building a strong media collection and electronic resources. In collaboration with the Askwith Media Library, we have placed 541 new media titles—including documentary films on the East Japan Great Earthquake disaster, feature films, TV dramas, performing arts, and animation films—into a collection now numbering 3,472 media titles. Our Japanese collection is the fourth largest in volumes among research university libraries in North America.

Digital resources allow our users to check out materials instantly from wherever in the world they are located. We have added the online database Foreign Office files for Japan, 1910-1951 (the National Archives, UK), and E-journals and monographs such as *Ajia Yugaku* アジア遊学, *Shin Kokushi dainenpyo* 新国史大年表, *Seiyaku Genji monogatari* 正訳源氏物語, and *Iwanami shin Nihon koten bungaku taikei Meiji-hen* 岩波新日本古典文学大系明治編 among 53 E-reference books and 37 E-book titles. The Japanese Studies librarian proactively works with the electronic resource providers in Japan to secure more E-books and to improve access for our patrons.

Resource support continues for students wishing to learn the Japanese language. In addition to reading materials, we provide online test preparation books at every level of the Japanese Language Proficiency Test (JLPT)—a test conducted each December on the U-M campus.

Digital Scholarship interest is growing among CJS students. A workshop on English-language text mining and OCR in Japanese Studies was offered. The CJS Thursday Lecture Series hosted the "Visual Narrative of Japan and Self" lecture by Mr. Steven Geofrey Braun, Data Analytics/Visualization specialist at the Northeastern University library (see the Videos of Past Events page on the CJS website, September 21, 2017). Following this lecture we offered a hands-on consultation to cater to individual students' research needs.

One of our notable collections, *Mushi no utaawase emaki* 虫歌合絵巻 was digitized in the IIIF (International Image Interoperability Framework) and is now available in the U-M Library Digital Collections. The IIIF images may be downloaded by users, promoting emerging research. We also provide digital scholarship technical assistance in addition to research data management and digital resources. Faculty and students can preserve a variety of data—text, images, movies, sounds, etc.—in *Deep Blue* (deepblue.lib.umich.edu) making them available as open access resources.



From the left, Etsuko Kosuge, Kazuko Anderson, Keiko Yokota-Carter, Mari Suzuki

Asia Library Travel Grants were awarded to Assistant Professor Kendra Strand of the University of Iowa, Ms. Tokiko Y. Bazzell, Asia Collection Department Chair and Japanese Studies Librarian at the University of Hawaii at Manoa, Mr. Robert Mowry of the University of Notre Dame, and Assistant Professor Meghen M. Jones of the New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University.

Guests from Japan (9) visited the Japanese collection, discussed library service, and researched our materials. Guests included researchers, librarians, publishers, and local governmental officers, and they represented Ho Chi Minh City University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Kanazawa University, Toyama University, Osaka University, Chubu University, International Research Center for Japanese Studies, and Ann Arbor Sister City Association and Hikone city. We continue to build a global network, among professionals in various fields, to enhance the infrastructure of Japanese Studies across the world, while strengthening cooperation among Japanese Studies Librarians nationally.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the Japanese Studies collection and digital scholarship, please visit Keiko Yokota-Carter in 412 Hatcher Graduate Library or contact her by email (kyokotac@umich.edu) or phone (734.764.7774). More information about the collection is available on the U-M library website **Japanese Studies Research Guide**.

Keiko Yokota-Carter
Japanese Studies Librarian