News from the

Asia Library Japanese Studies Collection

The University of Michigan Asia Library celebrated its 70th anniversary on December 6, 2018 with lectures by Professor Hitomi Tonomura of the History Department and Mr. Kenji Niki (Librarian, 1999 - 2011). These lectures on the development of the Japanese collection were followed by panels led by faculty and students. Professor Kevin Carr (History of Art) described the Japanese collection as one of the finest in the nation with regard to its quality and quantity. Yūki Nakayama, a PhD candidate in the Department of Film, Television, and Media, commended our service and emphasized the continuing acquisition and preservation of media materials. Director Mayumi Oka of the Japanese Language Program appreciated the language education support given by the library since 2012 and proposed further collaboration with librarians to strengthen Japanese language education, the foundation of Japanese Studies.

Creativity sparked! – class activities in the library: Eighty students from intermediate and advanced level Japanese classes had a fabulous time joining in Tadoku extensive reading, Bibliobattle, and developing presentations by joyfully exploring the Book Forest of diverse books in the stacks. Eight Bowling Green State University students along with their professor also visited us to conduct research on Japan with our "amazing" resource—and they want come back again!

Komonjo archive workshop (July 9 - August 3, 2018): The Asia Library hosted a one-month medieval history archive workshop, "Commoners and Authority in Medieval Japan" sponsored by the Center for Japanese Studies. Mr. Shoji Sasamoto, Director of the Nagano Prefecture Museum and Professor Shinichiro Takahashi of the Histographical Institute, Tokyo University each taught a two-week session, along with U-M Professor Hitomi Tonomura. Eight passionate participants—graduate students and faculty from Michigan and other states, as well as Japan—thoroughly studied the archive documents.

The collection has grown by adding 6,482 monograph titles and 7,686 volumes, which brings the collection to 357,366 monograph volumes including E-books. 541 media titles were added to a collection that now numbers 4,000 held in conjunction with the Askwith Media Library. Our Japanese collection is the fourth largest in volumes among university libraries in North America.

Digital resources allow our users to access materials instantly from wherever in the world they are located. Among new online resources are; 37 English translation of Japanese literature, *the Oriental Economics, Shipen Kokka Taikan* 新編国歌大観 ,



From left: Keiko Yokota-Carter, Yūki Nakayama, Kevin Carr, Mayumi Oka

Kamakura ibun 鎌倉遺文and Heian literatures from *Iwanami shin Nihon koten bungaku taikei Meiji-hen* 岩波新日本古典文学大系. In addition to acquisition, Alice Register, 2018 CJS student and U-M Library ScholarSpace Graduate Fellow created audio files of the narration to attach to the *Jinken Sengen* 人権宣言 digital collection slides to increase accessibility for visually impaired users.

Go Blue, Go Digital: CJS students' master's theses from 1948 to 2013 are now digitized and preserved at Deep Blue (deepblue.lib.umich), the University of Michigan's permanent, safe repository. They can be viewed by entering a UMID login. You can locate the list in Advanced Search in the Deep Blue by choosing "thesis and Center for Japanese Studies." If you would like your thesis to be accessible to the public, or wish to deposit your publications produced while at Michigan, please contact the librarian.

Guests (10) We hosted researchers and librarians from Tokyo University, Okayama University, Ferris State University, Waseda University, Kyoto University, Kobe Planet Film Archive, and University of Sarajevo. We are committed in building global networks with professionals in various fields to enhance the infrastructure of Japanese Studies in the world as well as strengthening the cooperation among Japanese Studies Librarians nationally.

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Japanese Studies Research Guide: guides.lib.umich.edu/japanesestudies on the U-M Library Homepage.

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