

CALA/SCA Annual Report 2009-2010

Visits of Chinese Library Directors

As a part of the CALA's "Think Globally, Act Globally" Project funded by the Institute for Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The CALA-SCA IMLS Hosting Committee members: Sally C. Tseng, Maggie Wang and Ying Xu welcomed the two directors from Chongqing Children's Library and Yunnan Provincial Library. Led by Sally who spent countless efforts of planning, arrangements, communication and coordination with major libraries in Southern California and accompanied by the Hosting Committee members, the events of visiting of two Chinese library directors to Southern California went successfully. The two directors visited six libraries with notable collections and exemplary services from July 14 to 18, 2009 including : the County of Los Angeles Public Library (CoLAPL), Lawndale Library, Los Angeles Public Library (LAPL), LAPL Chinatown Branch, the Cerritos Library, and the Monterey Park Bruggemeyer Library. The events received great enthusiastic support from the library administrators and staff who arranged and organized very informative meetings, discussions, guided tours. The two Chinese Library Directors also had been given opportunities to introduce Chinese libraries to their American colleagues. Special thanks go to all IMLS Grant partners, the leaders at the China Ministry of Culture, the Library Society of China, the Chinese American Librarians Association, the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana, and to Dr. Shuyong Jiang, Haipeng Li, and Dr. ShaLi Zhang for their able assistance.

Visiting highlights included:

- Ms. Song and Dr. Wang visited, observed and received first-hand information on library operations and services of major public libraries in Los Angeles area that are serving diverse communities.
- We met with library directors, managers, and department heads to discuss their roles and responsibilities -- shared information of each library's administration, management, organization, policies, staff hiring and evaluation procedures, services, technologies applications, and together with their unique library architectures, and many more. There were discussions among Ms. Song, Dr. Wang and library directors and those presented.
- Each library was very thoughtful to provide a very informative guided tour, to look at the uniqueness of their notable collections, services, online catalogs and databases, and to observe the use of these public libraries. We were especially honored that directors from several libraries personally provided the guided tours during their busy schedules. Their warm welcome and hospitalities were deeply appreciated.
- We were invited to attend the Board of Library Commissioners Meeting at the Los Angeles Public Library. The Library Board is a new concept to the Chinese library directors. Ms. Song and Dr. Wang were very interested in this library management structure and they told us that they would bring this structure back to China.

- Ms. Song and Dr. Wang were invited to speak at the LAPL Thursdays@Central program and at the County of Los Angeles Public Library Headquarters on July 16 and 17 respectively. Sally Tseng worked very hard to prepare PowerPoint presentations for them. These presentations include introductions to Chinese libraries, public libraries, their administration, management, organizations, collections, statistics, services, rules and regulations, the National Cultural Information Resources Sharing Project, assessment of public libraries, the Chongqing Library, and Yunnan Provincial Library, etc. The presentations were very well received. The audiences were deeply impressed by the library buildings, organizations, services, assessment and evaluation systems, and projects of the Chinese public libraries. These presentations provided great opportunities to exchange information about library operations between China and the United States



L to R: Beth Wilson, Robert Seal, Sally Tseng, Margaret Donnellan Todd (County Librarian) County of Los Angeles Public Library), Shuiqiao Wang, Jizhen Song, Melissa McCollum, and Wenwen Zhang



L to R: Jeanny Chan, Jizhen Song, Shuiqiao Wang, Don Buckley (Cerritos City Librarian) Shuiqiao Wang, Sally Tseng, and Ying Xu.



L to R: Anne Connor (Director of the Los Angeles Central Library), Jizhen Song, Martin Gomez (Los Angeles City Librarian) Shuiqiao Wang, and Sally Tseng

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CALA-SCA Chapter at the 2009 CLA Conference

With help of all committee members of CALA-SCA chapter and long-term supporters, the Chinese American Librarians Association, Southern California Chapter (CALA-SCA Chapter) held several informative, interesting and fun programs at the 111th Annual California Library Association Annual Conference in Pasadena. The program entitled "When the Earth Quakes: From California To China" was sponsored by CALA-SCA Chapter and co-sponsored by the [CLA Technical Services Interest Group](#) and the CLA Chinese American Librarians Interest

Group. A panel of distinguished speakers who shared their expertise and experience from their efforts on investigation and research, leadership and management in rebuilding and preserving invaluable collections from the earthquakes. The participants found the program greatly benefits them with methods and strategies that can be applied to earthquake safety, preparedness, reduction of damage and losses, and to preservation programs. Moderated by Joy Wang a librarian of the Soka University of America at Aliso Viejo, four distinguished speakers were invited to speak :

Dr. Jean-Pierre Bardet, Chair and Professor of the Sonny Astani Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Southern California discussed about the "Earthquakes and art and library preservation". **Dr. Susan C. Curzon**, Dean, University Library, California State University, Northridge, shared their valuable lessons learned from the Northridge Earthquake. She discussed the recovery efforts and the impact on services during the six years when the library was being rebuilt. **Dr. Yong-Gang Li**, an earthquake expert and Research Professor, Earth Sciences, University of Southern California, spoke on the devastating earthquakes in China and in California especially on the earthquake-generating faults in California. Dr. Li introduced the information on hazards and scenarios of recent major devastating earthquakes in California and Sichuan as well as the preparedness we should care about earthquakes to be safe so as to reduce property damage. **Sally C. Tseng**, Honorary Executive Director of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), shared the moving stories that touch everybody's heart from the earthquakes in China and the efforts and work of the Chinese American Librarians Association on Rebuilding Libraries in the Earthquake Disastrous Areas in China.



From L- R: Dr. Yong Gang Li, Sally Tseng, Dr. Jean-Pierre Bardet, Dr. Susan Curzon, Joy Wang CLA CALA-SCA Chinese Banquet

As a traditional event at the California Library Association Annual Conference, the CALA-SCA 2009 CLA Chinese Banquet was held on Sunday, November 1, 2009, at the Fu-Shing Chinese Restaurant in Pasadena. The evening was filled with authentic Chinese food, live Chinese music performance and door prizes with a variety of Chinese gifts. With great honor, Dr. Camila Alire, ALA President and Kim Bui-Burton, CLA President together with several distinguished California libraries' directors and guests joined and made warm greeting speeches at the banquet. All the attendees enjoyed the evening with lots of fun and laughs and were introduced to the rich Chinese culture as embodied in the delicious Chinese dishes and the live professional performance of traditional Chinese music - PiPa.



Dr. Camila Alire ALA President, spoke at the 2009 CLA CALA-SCA Chinese Banquet



Kim Bui-Burton, CLA President and Director, Monterey Public Library, spoke at the 2009 CLA CALA-SCA Chinese Banquet



Jan Sanders, Pasadena Public Library Director, shared a good laugh with the attendees and Manuel Urrizola, Master of Ceremony, at the Banquet



Yong Yi Song, CALA immediate past President issued award to the professional PiPa player



Left to right: Ying Xu, Zhuo Wang, Wen Wen Zhang

Thanks to all committee members of CALA-SCA chapter, volunteers and long-term supporters who contribute extraordinarily to making the programs so successful and possible: We would like to extend our sincere appreciation to Sally Tseng, Ying Xu, Yong Yi Song, Manuel Urrizola, Wen Wen Zhang, Kuei Chiu, Zuo Wang, Joy Wang, Maggie Wang who worked very hard to make such great and successful programs. Special thank you to Ying Xu, Program Chair of CALA-SCA and Librarian of California State University at Los Angeles for her countless efforts on coordination of the events and Sally Tseng on developing the informative and educational program, to Manuel Urrizola and Wen Wen Zhang for their lively masters of ceremony at the Banquet.

Awards and achievements of members of CALA-SCA

Dr. Henry C. Chang, Director of the Braille Library , the Southern California branch of the National Library Service (NLS), is one of the winners of the 2009 National Medal for Museum and Library Service, the nation's highest honor for museums and libraries. The annual award, made by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) since 1994, recognizes institutions for outstanding social, educational, environmental, or economic contributions to their communities. U.S. Representative Xavier Becerra (CA-31) praised the extraordinary special services the library provided to the community:

“For over 90 years, the Braille Institute has served as a vital resource center and true beacon of light for the visually impaired throughout Southern California. Every year the hardworking staff and volunteers of the Braille Institute touch the lives of tens of thousands of people with visual impairment by offering a whole host of services, resources, and cultural events geared toward their needs. I am pleased to see this pillar of the community receive the national recognition that

is so justly deserved,” To learn more about the Institute:
http://www.ims.gov/news/2010/022310_braille.shtm .



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