

AAMES Newsletter

Volume 12, Issue 2

Spring 2015

AAMES Newsletter
is a biannual
Publication of the
Asian, African, and
Middle Eastern
Studies Section of
ACRL
ISSN: 1548-4343



Editorial

It's that time of year again: welcome to the Spring 2015 issue of the *African, Asian and Middle East Section Newsletter!*

In this issue, you will find:

- A message from our Chair, Jingfeng Xia
- The program of the AAMES Research Forum to be held on June 26th, 2015 in San Francisco
- An agenda of upcoming conferences, annual meetings, and workshops in our fields
- Information about ACRL Standards, Scholarly Communication Workshops
- ACRL pre-conferences @ 2015 ALA Annual Conference announcements
- Announcement of the 56th annual RBMS conference, June 23-26, 2015.

I wish you a pleasant read, and all the best in the Spring/Summer seasons.

Anaïs Salamon

Chair's message

Dear AAMES members:

My tenure as AAMES chair is drawing to a close soon. Before drafting a report to ACRL by the ALA Annual Meeting in June, it is not too early to review some of the efforts that our section has made in the past months.

We all are aware that the section has experienced a difficult time of decision making. With a gradual decrease in the membership, we have faced hard choices in transitioning into an interest group or merging with another section. After a series of thoughtful discussions, a survey was taken among the executive board members that shows that our preference is to remain an independent status. As of the time writing this report, we are extending this survey to all AAMES members in order to solicit responses across the board.

To achieve the goal, we have launched several campaigns. The first is a fundraising campaign for ACRL so as to showcase our enthusiasm and passion to the professional development of ACRL. Our monetary contributions have been made to support new librarians to attend ALA meetings and participate in ALA activities. The second campaign is an attempt to increase the membership for the section. AAMES vice chair, Yue Li of Florida State University, and I called for an effort among the executive board members to each bring in 5-10 new members. This is an ongoing endeavor and will continue until AAMES has reached the threshold of 400 members in the future couple of years.

Thanks to the work of our conference programs committee, particularly its chair Hong Cheng of UCLA, AAMES has been able to hold a panel discussion at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Chicago this March. A forum has also been approved by ACRL and will be taken at the coming ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco on June 27th (see details in this newsletter). Additionally, AAMES will co-sponsor a program with ALCTS' Committee on Cataloging: Asian and African Materials at the ALA Annual Conference – "Managing Transliteration of Bibliographic Data."

Serving as chair of AAMES has been a great experience to me. My sincere thanks to the executive board members that have made great contributions to various initiatives. I particularly appreciate the work of the vice chair who is going to take over the leadership position from July of 2015. I am confident that AAMES will be moving in a positive direction under his guidance. The committee chairs/members have also taken professional responsibilities to successfully complete their assignments.

Jingfeng Xia

AAMES Research Forum & Executive Board Meeting @ 2015 ALA Annual Conference / San Francisco

The ACRL AAMES Research Forum, "Cross Regional Studies and Resources on Asia, Africa and Middle East" (65589 Forum Presentations / ACRL-AAMES) in the ALA Annual Meeting will be held on Saturday June 27, 2015, 3:00–4:00 PM in the HILTON – Union Square 21 room.

It will have the following presentations:

- Middle East Studies and Resources in China / by David Hirsch and Hong Cheng
- Korean Studies in South America / by Sanghun Cho
- Southeast Asia Collection Appraisal & Acquisitions in Paris: Quality & Impact / by Virginia Shih
- Fostering Collaboration and Improving Access: Two Area Studies Librarians' Cooperative Collection Development Experience / by Liladhar Pendse and Jianye He
- Open Access in Asia / by Susan Xue
- Gordon W. Prange Collection: Transpacific Resources, Transnational Studies / by Tomoko Bialock and Yukako Tatsumi



New to AAMES?

Make sure you subscribed to the AAMES listserv!

If you have not subscribed already, you may do so by sending

SUBSCRIBE AAMES-L [your name] in a message to

sympa@ala.org

(Leaving the subject line blank)

& Visit AAMES online at: <http://aamesacrl.wordpress.com>

What's coming up in our fields?

June 5-7, 2015	Asian Studies on the Pacific Coast Conference (ASPAC), University of the Pacific, Stockholm, CA. For more information: http://www.pacific.edu/Academics/Schools-and-Colleges/College-of-the-Pacific/Community/Special-Events/2015-ASPAC-Conference.html
June 20-21, 2015	Asian Studies Conference (Japan (ASCJ), Meiji Gakuin University, Shirokame Campus, Tokyo. For more information: http://www.meijigakuin.ac.jp/~ascj/
June 22-24, 2015	Association for Asian Studies- in Asia- Conference, Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan. For more information: http://www.aas-in-asia.org/
June 28-July 5, 2015	Japan Studies Association Workshop, "Remembering Hiroshima – Nagasaki 1945-2015", Hiroshima & Nagasaki, Japan. For more information: http://www.japanstudies.org/2015-jsa-hiroshima-nagasaki-workshop.html
October 9-11, 2015	Mid-Atlantic Region of the Association of Asian Studies Conference, University of Pittsburgh, PA. For more information: http://maraas.org/maraas-44-university-of-pittsburgh/
October 9-11, 2015	American Association for Chinese Studies Conference, University of St Thomas, Houston, TX. For more information: http://aacs.cuny.cuny.edu/conferences1.htm
October 16-17, 2015	New York Conference on Asian Studies (NYCAS), Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, NY. For more information: http://pages.vassar.edu/nycas2015/
October 16-18, 2015	Midwest Conference on Asian affairs, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO. For more information: http://ealc.wustl.edu/mcaa
November 6-7, 2015	Southwest Conference of Asian Studies, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, TX. For more information: http://www.trinity.edu/org/swcas/home.html
November 19-22, 2015	African Librarians Council Fall meeting, Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, San Diego, CA. For more information: http://www.africanstudies.org/annual-meetings
November 19-22, 2015	African Studies Association Annual Meeting, Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina, San Diego, CA. For more information: http://www.africanstudies.org/annual-meetings
November 19-20, 2015	Middle East Librarians Association (MELA) Annual Meeting, Denver, CO. For more information: http://mela.us/annualmeetsmela.html
November 21-24, 2015	Middle East Studies Association (MESA) Meeting, Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, Co. For more information: http://www.mesana.org/annual-meeting/index.html

Host ACRL Standards, Scholarly Communication Workshops in 2015

Today's academic and research librarians increasingly act as change agents in the higher education community while being called on to demonstrate their value on campus. ACRL's one-day scholarly communication and Standards for Libraries in Higher Education workshops help you achieve those goals through learning more about these important topics at your campus, chapter, or consortia. Facilitated by our team of expert presenters, both workshops provide a framework for libraries to grow, innovate, lead, and succeed.



Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement

To help empower our community in accelerating the transformation of the scholarly communication system, ACRL is pleased to offer the day-long workshop, "Scholarly Communication: From Understanding to Engagement." The workshop helps participants in very practical ways, such as preparing for library staff or faculty outreach, contextualizing collection development decisions to internal and external stakeholders, and initiating or supporting new models for scholarly communication. Details are available on the ACRL website at www.ala.org/acrl/issues/scholcomm/roadshow.

"The workshop helped me connect complex issues like the relationship between the open movement, copyright, and economics in a coherent way. It is good to have this conceptual framework moving forward." – Scholarly Communication Workshop Participant

Standards for Libraries in Higher Education Training Workshops

The ACRL Standards for Libraries in Higher Education provide a framework for planning and assessment that can be adapted for a variety of circumstances including strategic planning, program review, and accreditation self-study. ACRL's "Planning, Assessing, and Communicating Library Impact: Putting the Standards for Libraries in Higher Education into Action" workshop provides information on using the standards and other foundational documents as a framework to develop benchmarks, evaluate quality and performance, and demonstrate value. Details are available on the ACRL website at: www.ala.org/acrl/standardsworkshop.

"In this workshop, the assessment process was presented in a clear, understandable way. Great job on difficult material!" – Standards Workshop Participant

Hosts are responsible for the full cost of both workshops and may choose to recover costs through registration fees.

ACRL pre-conferences @ 2015 ALA Annual Conference

ACRL is offering four pre-conferences in conjunction with the 2015 ALA Annual Conference in San Francisco on Friday, June 26, 2015. Complete details, including descriptions, learning outcomes, and registration materials, are [online](#).

Instruction Section Preconference - [Reflective Teaching: Self-evaluation to Assess and Improve Your Teaching Practice](#)

Discover techniques and strategies for more structured and intentional reflection. Learn how to identify, articulate, and diagnose teaching and learning “problems” you encounter in the classroom, analyze your role as a teacher in that situation, and learn about techniques of reflective practice to address those learning problems and improve student learning.

[Data Visualization: Tools, Techniques, and Practice](#)

Due to the proliferation of digital data and the emergence of big data, visualization is of crucial importance in academic research and institutions. This preconference will introduce the fundamentals of data visualization including discussion of visual variables – the building blocks of any visualization. Attendees will participate in a sketching exercise to explore visual variables and create a foundation for the creation of library specific visualizations in the afternoon.

[Storytelling 101: Craft Narratives to Engage and Persuade](#)

When was the last time someone changed your mind with a story? We empathize with, persuade, and teach each other using the social tool that is storytelling. Whether you're a high-powered library administrator headed into an important conference call or a part-time instruction librarian at the head an unfamiliar classroom, humans crave connection and a compelling story can be the difference between connecting deeply with your campus colleagues and patrons or experiencing a total disconnect.

[Writing Data Management Plans Across the Curriculum](#)

Demand for data management plans (DMPs) is growing as more granting agencies add this requirement. Join an experienced data management plan consultant from a major research university to learn how to apply your existing skills to writing strong DMPs for the sciences, social sciences, and humanities. Most presentations concerning data management are more concerned with the creation and management of repositories than how to write, or consult with researchers writing a data management plan for grant submission.

Contact Margot Conahan at mconahan@ala.org or call 312-280-2522 with questions.



The 56th Annual RBMS Conference

Preserve the Humanities! Special Collections as Liberal Arts Laboratory

Oakland and Berkeley, June 23 - 26, 2015

The annual RBMS Conference will feature three plenary panels around the theme of the role of special collections libraries in the context of larger trends in the humanities and higher education. Speakers will focus on collaborative partnerships forged amongst archivists, librarians, researchers, and teaching faculty and position libraries as laboratories for the liberal arts and sciences.

Register by May 22, 2015, to receive early bird pricing. <http://www.preconference15.rbms.info/>

The *AAMES Newsletter* is a biannual Publication of the Asian, African, Middle Eastern Section of the Association of College and Research Libraries, a division of the American Library Association
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The subscription to this newsletter is included in the ALA/ACRL/AAMES membership fee.

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