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LACUNY International Relations Roundtable Meeting Minutes, March 2010

LACUNY

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LACUNY IRRT Meeting Minutes

Date: March 16, 2010

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 AM

Location: Graduate Center, Reading Room on the concourse level

Attendees: Sheau-Yueh Chao ; Ewa Dzurak; Jane Fitzpatrick; Kachuen Gee; Songqian Lu; Sharon Swacker; Kenneth Schlesinger; Zuwang Shen; Judy Xiao

Meeting Agenda:

1. Kenneth Schlesinger report from his trip to Archives in South Africa
2. To organize a campaign to support Haitian libraries
3. To plan the activities to welcome the Chinese exchange library faculty members from the Shanghai University/Shanghai Normal University
4. Judy Xiao report from a library conference in Hong Kong

1. Kenneth Schlesinger shared colorful impressions from his trip to South African Archives in Johannesburg and Cape Town, illustrated by photographs of the archives, libraries, museum of Nelson Mandela and countryside taken during the 10 day trip. His report is available on IRRT website.

2. Haiti relief campaign- more detailed information is available on the LACUNY IRRT website

LACUNY IRRT decided to share the information about help for Haitian libraries with CUNY librarians through CULIBS. The following statement was distributed through the listserv.

Haiti Relief

News about the disastrous earthquake that devastated Haiti no longer occupies front pages of newspapers, but the earthquake's effects continue to disrupt everyday life of the Haitian people. Haitian libraries were not spared by this natural disaster and many have sustained heavy damage. LACUNY IRRT would like to express our deep concern and sympathy to Haitian librarians and encourage all CUNY librarians to support them by making a donation for the cause of rebuilding Haitian libraries.

Please check the following links:

Libraries without borders : <http://www.librarieswithoutborders.org/home.php>

Libraries Without Borders is a non-profit, non-partisan organization based in New York City. Its mission is to support education in developing and disaster affected areas by providing children, students and adults access to well-equipped, up-to-date and efficient libraries. Access to knowledge is a key factor in social and economic development. By facilitating the growth of libraries in Africa, Asia and the Americas, Libraries Without Borders aims to provide the knowledge that is the engine of human development. The organization is affiliated with Bibliothèques Sans Frontières.

ALA IRRT page: <http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/rts/irrt/index.cfm>

ALA Haiti fund : ALA established Library Relief Fund to help rebuild libraries and archives in Haiti. ALA, acting on a resolution adopted by its Council on Jan. 19 during the ALA's Midwinter Meeting, has created the "Haiti Library Relief Fund" to collect monetary donations to help rebuild libraries and archives that were destroyed or damaged during the devastating earthquake on Jan. 12. Donations can be made by credit card or check through www.ala.org/haiti.

ALA Haiti Library relief: <http://www.ala.org/ala/aboutala/offices/iro/iroactivities/haitirelieffund.cfm>

Though there is a strong interest in donating books directly to Haiti immediately, but libraries in Haiti are **not** in a position to receive books until further notice. Your books, however, can still help libraries in Haiti. Better World Books (BWB), an affinity partner of ALA, has set up a special program to receive and raise money for Haitian libraries from the books you donate. For more information on how to donate, please visit the [Better World Books](#) site (opens a new page). ALA is a member of the U.S. Committee of the Blue Shield (USCBS), the organization that is the equivalent of the Red Cross for cultural heritage and preservation. The USCBS belongs to the larger Associations of National Committees of the Blue Shield (ANCBS). The Blue Shield wants to support recovery, restoration and repair measures necessary to rebuild libraries, archives, museums, monuments and sites. Therefore it is calling upon archivists, restorers, curators, librarians, architects and other experts to register online as a volunteer.

FLA: same as ALA works with Blue Shield organization

PSC CUNY wiki page devoted to HAITI relief: <http://psccunyhaiti2010.pbworks.com/>

3. Chinese librarians exchange program

Two librarians from Shanghai will be visiting CUNY this semester: **Pan Lan** from Shanghai Normal University is coming to Baruch College starting her visit on April 15, 2010, and **Ming Lu** of Shanghai University will be visiting Lehman College starting in May 1, 2010.

At the IRRT meeting various activities for those librarians were discussed:

A Reception, opened to all CUNY librarians, hosted by IRRT will take place on MAY 13th at 2.00 -4.00 in Graduate Center. During the reception visiting librarians will give a short presentation about their libraries, and libraries in China in general followed by questions and answer sessions. Refreshments will be served. Details of their visit will be discussed over emails.

Various sightseeing activities were proposed for visiting librarians apart from the programs in hosting colleges that would include active participation in departmental activities, meetings, projects, observing classes, etc.

Library visits: visits and tours of selected CUNY colleges' libraries, NYPL, Morgan Library and depending on the interest other New York City libraries visits could be organized. Other proposed activities are:

- Participating in LACUNY meetings if interested
- Sightseeing New York: Empire State Building, Staten Island Ferry, Met, MOMA, Coney Island, etc.
- Theater : organizing Broadway show tickets
- Welcome dinner:
 - Thursday April 22nd at 6 PM for Pan Lan
 - Friday, May 7th at 6.00 PM for Ming Lu

Details to be discussed (Italian restaurant?)

4. Judy Xiao reported from the Library Conference organized by Hong Kong Library Association at Hong Kong Polytechnic University – “Academic Librarian 2: Singing in the Rain Conference towards future possibilities” .

Conference site: <http://www.lib.polyu.edu.hk/ALSR2010/ContactUs.html>

Judy presented a paper: Integrating Information Literacy into Blackboard: Librarian-Faculty Collaboration for Successful Student Learning which is available here:
http://www.lib.polyu.edu.hk/ALSR2010/programme/pdf/Session5B_Xiao.pdf