

EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION OF SINOLOGICAL LIBRARIANS (EASL)

Minutes of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Conference
Vienna, 10-12 September 2008

The twenty-eighth EASL conference was held at the Institute of East Asian Studies/Chinese Department, University of Vienna, from Wednesday 10 to Friday 12 September 2008. The meetings were chaired by Hanno Lecher. Mag. Maria Seissl, Director of the Vienna University Library, and Prof. Weigelin-Schwiedrzik, Chair for Sinology at the Department of East Asian Studies and Vice-Dean of the Faculty for Philological and Cultural Studies, delivered warm welcome speeches. Our host Ms Maja Fuchs expressed thanks to Mr Larry C. Huang (Cheng Wen Publishing, Taiwan) and Ms Zhang Guifang (Beijing Rarebook Co. Ltd.) for their generous financial contributions to help with the organisation of the conference.

On Wednesday afternoon, there were two separate visits to the University Library and the Austrian National Library (Oesterreichische Nationalbibliothek, Augustiner-Lesesaal), where Dr Monika Lehner and Dr Georg Lehner presented rare books on China from the collections of these two Libraries respectively. In the evening, a nice reception was held at the Institute of East Asian Studies/Chinese Studies. On Thursday afternoon, Maja Fuchs gave a guided tour through Schoenbrunn Palace. The farewell dinner took place on Friday evening at a traditional Heurigen in Nussdorf in the suburbs of Vienna.

Present

- **Members**

Attilio Andreini (Dipartimento di Studi sull'Asia Orientale, Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia)
Inga-Lill Blomkvist (Nordic Institute of Asian Studies)
Barabara Bonazzi (École française d'Extrême-Orient)
Hiroko Brittain (Document Supply Centre, British Library)
Katarina Feriencikova (Univerzita Karlova v Praze)
Maja Fuchs (Universität Wien, Austria)
David Helliwell (Bodleian Library, Oxford)
Kerstin Herelius (Uppsala University Library)
Xiyi Huang (Brotherton Library, Leeds University)
Matthias Kaun (Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin)
Sergei Kukushkin (Russian State Library, Russia)
Anne Labitzky-Wagner (Institute of Chinese Studies Library, Heidelberg University)
Hanno Lecher (Sinologisch Instituut, Leiden University)
Xiaowei Li (Westminster University Library)
Fung On Lui (Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-University Frankfurt)
Imke Mees (Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst, Köln)
Andreas Mixius (German National Library of Science & Technology)
Nathalie Monnet (Bibliothèque nationale de France)
Inga Nyman (Asian Library, Stockholm University Library)
Sue Small (School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London)

Camilla Smith (Stockholm University Library)
Delphine Spicq (Bibliothèque de l'Institut des hautes études chinoises, Collège de France)
Katharina Thölen (Chinese Library, Universität Zürich)
Shenxiao Tong (Edinburgh University Library)
Benedicte Vaerman (Oost-Aziatische Bibliotheek, Catholic University of Leuven)

• **Vendors**

Xiaolan Nancy Guan (Tongfang Knowledge Network Technology Co. Ltd.)
Sijia (Scarlet) He (Beijing Founder Apabi Technology Ltd.)
Xin (Mandy) Hu (Wanfang Data Co. Ltd.)
Larry C. Huang (Cheng Wen Publishing, Taiwan)
Yu-chen Huang Chiu (Cheng Wen Publishing, Taiwan)
Jing (Joe) Li (Beijing Founder Apabi Technology Ltd.)
Dingfei (Danny) Liu (Wanfang Data Co. Ltd.)
Yingna Miao ((Wanfang Data Co. Ltd.)
Haining Wang (China International Book Trading Corporation)
Jane Yu (Tongfang Knowledge Network Technology Co. Ltd.)
Guifang Zhang (Beijing Rare Book Co. Ltd.)
Ying Zhang (China National Publishing Industry Trading Co.)
Min Zhu (China International Book Trading Corporation)

Apologies

Charles Aylmer (Cambridge University Library)
Lutz Bieg (Ostasiatisches Seminar, Moderne China Studien, Universität zu Köln)
Helena Coelho (Centro Científico e Cultural de Macau, I.P. – Biblioteca)
Cristina Cramerotti (École française d'Extrême-Orient)
Gill Goddard (Western Bank Library, University of Sheffield)
Ana Cristina Costa Gomes (Centro Científico e Cultural de Macau, I.P.)
Martin Hanke (CHINA Buchservice)
Ane Husstad-Nedberg (Chinese Studies Library of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Oslo)
Zezulkova Lenka (Collection of Asian Art of NG in Prague)
Bent Pedersen (Kongelige Bibliothek, Kopenhagen)
Irène Sandell (Asia Library, Lund University)
Mamtimyn Sunuodola (Durham University Library)
Annie Troedsson (Library of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Lund University)

ACTA

1. Chairman's address

Hanno Lecher opened the conference by thanking Mag Seissl, Prof. Weigelin-Schwiedrzik, and particularly Maja Fuchs, for hosting the conference.

After the warm welcome speeches by Mag Seissl and Prof. Weigelin-Schwiedrzik, Hanno reported that Matthias' paper at the EACS plenum had been very well received, and that there was the wish to do more next time. He also reported that the library system provider Allegro

wanted to send people for a presentation at EASL but their plan did not work out, so they sent some written material for distribution.

2. Minutes of the previous EASL conference

The minutes of the 27th EASL conference were accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings.

3. Matters arising

Following David Helliwell's suggestion, the printed periodicals issue was added to the agenda for discussion.

4. Introduction and notices of members

-- There is no compulsory redundancy of staff amid the current changes and restructuring in SOAS. There is much money for material purchase. (Sue Small)

-- Librarians' roles are undergoing further changes in Leeds University Library, with a general increased involvement in teaching. The Library has newly acquired the online version of People's Daily and is exploring online yearbooks. (Xiyi Huang)

-- Fung On Lui has taken up the post as Librarian at the Interdisciplinary Centre for East Asian Studies, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-University Frankfurt. It is a small institute library with 30,000 titles, on the Pica system. Bibliographical records are retrievable by Chinese characters. (Fung On Lui)

-- Westminster University continues to support Chinese studies, especially on women studies. With the Library material budget being tight last year, the Library wasn't able to get People's Daily online as desired. There is an organisational restructuring going on at the University and the Library. (Xiaowei Li)

-- British Library now subscribes to 1750 Chinese journals in total, compared to 116 Japanese journals, indicating that interest in Chinese studies remains strong. (Hiroko Brittain)

-- The Museum für Ostasiatische Kunst, one of the ten museums in Köln, will celebrate its centenary in 2009. Material budget is shrinking more at the municipal rather than at the national level. (Imke Mees)

-- Mark Ulyanov has now become Head of the Chinese Collection, Russian State Library. Online cataloguing of Chinese books has started in 2008 but the work hasn't been completed yet. Cataloguing of rare books will start in 2009. Web link to the Catalogue will be sent to the EASL list when there are sufficient records. Glad about the Aleph system. It is not able for people in other European countries to borrow from the Russian State Library right now, but this will become possible in the future. (Sergei Kukushkin)

-- The Nordic Institute of Asian Studies will mark its 40th anniversary next week. The past year has been a year of consolidation.. The Asian Portal was launched in October 2007. Since then more resources have been added to the databases, on e g business and financial information and newspapers online. There is more work to be done on the portal e g an online community

for networking and information sharing among primarily Nordic students and researchers is being developed. (Inga-Lill Blomkvist)

-- There are some changes at the Department of Oriental Manuscripts of Bibliothèque nationale de France. The Director of the Department, who was an EASL founding member, resigned in 2006. A major renovation of the building will take five years to complete. The Department will be at the same old site, but the Reading Room for Oriental Manuscripts will be abolished, and there will be only one reading room shared with the Department of Occidental Manuscripts. All the printed books will be moved out of Paris, though manuscripts will stay. Cataloguing is progressing, but slightly behind schedule. The good news is that Dunhuang manuscripts will be digitised, and that we will join IDP ([International Dunhuang Project Catalogue of Silk Road Manuscripts](#)) to set up the French site. Digitised images of old catalogues are being converted to text format which will be available soon. Cataloguing records for materials in Chinese and many other Asian languages will be available by the end of the year. (Nathalie Monnet)

-- The Bodleian Library of Oxford will abolish its Oriental Department and Oriental Reading Room in three weeks time. Chinese material will be with the Department of Special Collections and Department of Humanities. The new title for David Helliwell will be Curator of Chinese Collections. David is interested in spending more time on old books and rediscovering their value. A plan to cancel all the print periodicals is being considered, and a decision is expected by the end of September 2008. This is not to save money, but to improve efficiency. (David Helliwell)

-- The Chinese Library of Universität Zürich finds it a correct decision to have replaced Allegro with the Aleph system. A double entry is used for subject heading, with both simplified and traditional characters. The material budget is not touched by serious cuts. The Library continues to receive donated books. Katharina Thölen has also worked for the Library of the Museum Rietberg Zürich for the last ten years. She is currently focused on building an electronic catalogue as well as on retrospective cataloguing. (Katharina Thölen)

-- There is no professional librarian in the Department of Oriental Studies, University of Ca' Foscari, Venice. Researchers in the Department make decisions about what books to buy. (Attilio Andreini)

-- The Chinese Collection of École française d'Extrême-Orient will continue to be separate from all other language collections. It will stay where it is. The Director is keen on having a very technological library. We are digitising materials into PDF format and making them available online. (Barabara Bonazzi)

-- Bibliothèque de l'Institut des hautes études chinoises, Collège de France will begin to use the Aleph system soon. There will be only one person to do the retrospective cataloguing of over 60,000 items. It may take ten years to complete. (Delphine Spicq)

-- The interlibrary loan service of Staatsbibliothek zu Berlin is still open to all European libraries. We continue to purchase both print and electronic resources. It is now possible to upload records to Pica. There will be new OPAC in the new year. About 8,000 records that were previously on the card catalogue have now been converted online and available to use. (Matthias Kaun)

-- The Library of Charles University (Univerzita Karlova v Praze) in Prague has adopted the Aleph system which can handle non-roman scripts. It has received funds from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for book purchasing. (Katarina Feriencikova)

-- The new language and computing lab at the Institute of Chinese Studies Library, Heidelberg University, is almost ready. There are 40 PCs for students, 2 for staff. There are now 14 PCs for the Library, a doubling of the previous number. The Active Directory is working well. Student fees have been abolished. The Institute is to have a fourth Chair in Chinese economics. (Anne Labitzky-Wagner)

-- There has been no major change in the past year at Oost-Aziatische Bibliotheek, Catholic University of Leuven. It has been decided to transfer the Chinese access catalogue to the Aleph system. The conversion is not yet completed, but hopefully it can be done soon. (Benedicte Vaerman)

-- Vienna University Library began to use Aleph in 2003. Only Maja Fuchs herself does the cataloguing of Chinese materials and the retrospective conversion. The Institute of Chinese Studies was established in 1973. It also included the library. In 1999, Chinese, Japanese and Korean Studies were combined into a new Institute of East Asian Studies, and the library became a part of the new sublibrary of East Asian Studies. (Maja Fuchs)

-- The Main Library of Edinburgh University is undergoing a major re-development. The whole project will be completed in 2012. Work hasn't affected the East Asian Collections yet, but it will in less than two years' time. It hasn't been decided yet whether the East Asian Collections will be incorporated into the main general collections. The bibliographical records of all the Apabi e-books have successfully been put into the online catalogue. (Shenxiao Tong)

-- Leiden University has seen a re-organisation recently. There is no Faculty of Arts or Institute of Chinese Studies any more. The University's annual budget of 4 million Euros is redistributed according to new rules. There has been a 20% to 30% budget cut. The Institute of Chinese Studies Library has become part of the University Library. The Chinese Collection has two less f/t staff than last year. Currently working on implementing Aleph, with the prospect of completion by 2009. (Hanno Lecher)

-- Martin Hanke had sent in his Treasurer's report to Shenxiao Tong to be presented at the meeting (see Treasurer's Report below).

5. Reports on conferences, meetings or workshops 2007/2008

There was no report on conferences, meetings or workshops except for Matthias Kaun's report on his participation in the EACS conference 6 – 9 August 2008 in Lund which is covered in the following topic: 10.1 EASL-EACS relationship.

6. Treasurer's report

Martin Hanke's report was presented in absentia as he was not able to attend the meeting. Since last year's report when the EASL funds were totalling in a balance of 1,834.19 Euro, there were no additional receipts except the saving account of 2007 which bore an interest of 9.27 Euro. The EASL funds are now totalling in a balance of 1,843.36 Euro.

Members expressed a concern about the low return on interest, but agreed that the account should be left as it is.

Martin said he would be happy to hand over his Treasurer's duty in case one of the EASL members was interested; he had no objection to continuing his work in the current role if asked.

7. Guest presentation

Members warmly appreciated Dr Danny Dingfei Liu's 45-minute, well informed and referenced presentation "Copyright issues & Electronic Publishing of Chinese Materials". Powerpoint presentation: <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/3urf3t8RnYYkiF>

8. Vendor demonstrations and presentations

8.1 China National Knowledge Infrastructure

There was an update on the new service development by Jane Yu and an introduction to the new, integrated platform of CNKI by Nancy Guan. The mirror site in Germany has been improved. Resources include both CAJ and CJP from 1912 onwards. Users in Europe making use of the German mirror site should experience faster and smooth connection. Subscription now can be done by subject, by year range, or by title for both yearbooks and reference works.

Powerpoint presentation: <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/GDYL3FORYHI9gZ> and <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/Aj3ZvyZBiYMH1M>

8.2 Apabi

Scarlet He presented Apabi's eResources & New Integrated Service. New resources include yearbooks database, newspapers full-text database, reference database and China fine arts database. There is one integrated platform now for all these databases. At the moment, there are 1,000 titles or 6,000 volumes of yearbooks, 1,600 titles of reference works, 320 newspapers (29 of which have archives). There will also be a new resource containing literary works of all the famous authors since 1949, with an initial 500 titles to be available by the end of 2008.

Powerpoint presentation: <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/uIpMmHcCmGqGUd>.

8.3 Beijing Rare Book

Zhang Guifang informed the meeting that they had provided books to overseas libraries for three years. 70 libraries outside China now use their service. Main features include competitive prices and high success rate in getting older, out-of-print books through their book tracking service.

Powerpoint presentation: <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/2tOFxk7eSOtKb5>.

8.4 Wanfang Data

Miao Yingna gave an update on the new resource and technical developments. Core journals have increased to 6,068 titles, of which 2,023 are in arts, humanities and social sciences. It has

adopted OpenURL and is now compatible with EndNote and RefWorks. Other notable resources include China legal Access (338,591 records as of September 2008), People's Daily (1949-present), database of the Communist Party of China, Dissertations of China, as well as Human Geology Videos.

Powerpoint presentation: <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/b4f4WsT5x0qqHa>

8.5 Allegro (handout only)

A handout on the new Allegro solution for CJK (Chinese, Japanese and Korean) materials by Klaus Lehmann was distributed at the meeting. The system now provides input, search, view, and print functions. More information at <http://allegronet.de>

9. Presentations of EASL members

9.1 *Local religious practices in Southern China. Hunan province domestic statuary – a database*, by Barbara Bonazzi. The project, which began in 2002 with the financial support of the CCK Foundation and the Beaufour-Ipsen Tianjin Pharmaceutical Co., was based on the computerized cataloguing of three collections of polychrome wood statuettes originating in the Hunan region. There are 3,000 pieces in the database, the oldest one dating back to 1609. Barbara suggested that the database would be interesting and useful for subject areas such as geography, religion, history of art, and calligraphy.

Powerpoint presentation available at <http://www.slideshare.net/secret/pG97UUVe98HqmaX>

Project website: http://www.shenxianghunan.com/bdd_web_barbara/index.html

Barbara also reported that since last year more content had been added to the Chinese Rubbings database which now includes British Library collections, for example, rubbings of epitaphs. More information at http://www.efeo.fr/estampages/detfich.php?estamp_id

9.2 *Two recently discovered rarities of considerable interest from the Bodleian Library*, by David Helliwell. They are a Chyna Almanack in 1677 and a Map of China which was probably drawn in the 1620s.

9.3 *Bibliographic Research-Database for Human Sciences* by Benedicte Vaerman. This is a Chinese Christian Texts database, developed in Aleph by Ad Dudink and Nicolas Standaert. It currently contains about 1,000 primary sources and 5,000 secondary sources, reflecting 25 years of research on Sino-European contacts in the 17th and 18th centuries.

Project website: <http://www.arts.kuleuven.be/sinology/cct/>

10. Discussions on EASL affairs

10.1 EASL – EACS relationship: report and reflections on Matthias' participation in the recent EACS conference

Acting on the last EASL meeting agreement, Matthias attended the recent EACS conference on behalf of EASL and gave a presentation on the role of the Berlin State Library in support of Chinese studies in Germany. Before his meeting, Hanno had received an email from the EACS President Brunhild Staiger that Matthias' presentation was very well received. Hanno thanked Matthias for going there on behalf of EASL and congratulated him on the success.

Possibility for future participation was discussed. Hanno reported that the EACS President had extended welcome to EASL members to participate in the next EACS biannual conference in Riga, Latvia in 2010. There was a general consensus about the usefulness of EASL involvement for researchers, as the latter tend to know less about resources than they think. It was suggested that participating in EACS could help improve mutual understanding and promote what librarians could do for researchers. However, concerns were expressed about the lack of audience for library sessions at previous EACS conferences, as well as about the cost and funding for going to EACS conferences. It was agreed that this issue should be further discussed at the next EASL conference in September 2009. Hanno would like to welcome further comments or suggestions, and at the same time he would contact EACS.

10.2 Electronic resources

Issues

The lack of enough funding for purchasing electronic resources, the fluidity of the Chinese e-resources market, and how to deal with it were discussed at length.

It is thought that universities in Europe generally recognize the importance of China, but when it comes to funding for library resources, they are not so supportive as they should. The situation with *Hanji ziliao ku* (www.sinica.edu.tw/%7Etdbproj/handy1) in Taiwan is a case in point. Though it contains much free material, it still costs about \$400,000 a year which is too expensive for most European libraries to afford. Many American universities, however, have been able to acquire this resource. The Council of East Asian Libraries in America (CEAL Bulletin) publishes a table comparing library spending on East Asian materials. Library of Congress is at the top and Berlin State Library 2nd, while Oxford is only at 14.

Berlin State Library: Matthais said that 80% of their material fund needs to be applied for each year. In 2006, about 60,000 to 70,000 Euro was spent on databases, which represents less than 10% of the money spent on print materials. It also emerges that Berlin State Library receives money from the German Research Foundation to purchase databases for all German institutions.

Another issue is the unsettled nature of the pricing structure on the part of publishers or vendors, so that you can never be sure whether you are getting the best value for money. Oxford, for example, spent £5000 on 25 *shi* of *Hanji ziliao ku* a few years ago, but now this series is just free.

Specific resources

David Helliwell had been discussing with Wang Tong (CIBTC) about *Zhongguo jiben guji ku* and *Ming Qing shilu*. It was preferable to access them through Berlin State Library which had purchased both resources one-off at \$120,000 and \$10,000 respectively. It was generally felt that the prices were far too high relative to the much smaller number of our users than in China.

Sue Small reported that Taiwan had introduced a periodical database - *National Palace Museum Periodicals*. 50% of the annual subscription cost will automatically be paid by Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. Oxford had bought *Taiwan periodicals*, with 1,500 Euro being

paid annually by Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation for the first 3 years. *Tawain National Palace Museum Periodicals* is automatically provided as part of the deal.

Suggestions and decision

Several approaches to e-resources were suggested, including a consortial approach, applying to European Commission for funding, and collaboration with Confucius Institutes. But it was decided that it would be good to start with evaluating databases, sharing information among EASL members, and making a purchase wish list, before approaching funding bodies. The meeting entrusted Hanno Lecher with the task of creating a wiki space for this purpose [task completed in early December 2009. See <http://easl.wikispaces.com>]

10.3 Vendor presentations

It was felt that vendor presentations were very useful and should continue to be part of the conference proceedings. Information about latest products, our opinions and purchase decisions often come out of these presentations. However, vendor presentations tend to go too quickly, probably because a 15-minute limit is too short. It would also be helpful if more information is given about prices, and if a free trial can be provided both before and during the conference so that members can evaluate and prepare questions beforehand.

It was decided that A) in future, each presentation can be allocated 20 minutes followed by an extra 10 minutes for discussion; B) we should ask vendors to provide trials to EASL members for the resources they are going to present at least two months before the EASL conference, and C) Hanno Lecher will create a wiki space for members to exchange information, opinions and evaluations about electronic resources [task completed in December 2008, see <http://easl.wikispaces.com>, with a list of databases drawn from the one prepared at Leiden, see <http://easl.wikispaces.com/Databases>]

10.4 Printed periodicals

David Helliwell opened the discussion by reporting that he was prepared to dispose of all printed periodicals, keeping only six most important titles like *Wenwu*. The decision was almost made. Bodleian Library subscribes to about 500 printed Chinese periodicals which cost £12,000 a year, more expensive than the electronic versions.

General concerns about “electronic periodicals only” are around the long term reliability, content control, archiving and copyright issues. Sue Small reported that the interim Librarian at SOAS attached great importance to e-resources, but they were cautious about going for electronic periodicals only. For example, some titles are not available online because of sensitive information. Hanno Lecher thought that it was too early to get rid of all the printed periodicals for fear of the potential danger of losing electronic access because of the changing situation on the part of vendors. Matthias Kaun thought another problem was that we had no control of the content. Hiroko Brittain reported that the Higher Education Funding Council in England (HEFCF) had provided funding for purchasing an archive copy of everything. Shenxiao Tong suggested that ensuring ownership or a copy of all the content from vendors could probably ease our fear. Apabi, for example, provides the archive of the full content of our licensed material without extra cost. Andreas Mixius observed that the option of e-journals only could have an impact on interlibrary loans, because EU copyright rules prevent the distribution of e-journal content if we do not own the printed copies at the same time.

10.5 Book acquisition

There was a brief discussion about booksellers such as Man's Books, Lexis Book and Wenxing Bookstore. Katharina Thölen reported that she had stopped ordering books from Wenxing which used to provide books from Mainland China, Taiwan and Hong Kong, but suddenly they could no longer do so.

It was noted that an exchange programme called Zhongguo zhi chuang (Window to China) was being provided by the National Library of China.

10.6 Rare books project

David Helliwell reported that Zhang Zhiqing and Emily Zhao from the National Library of China had visited Oxford, the purpose of which was to send two people to count the books and to test the online connection to the NLC. Neither of these two tasks had been done. The project is now between the British Library and the NLC.

Hanno Lecher reported that Leiden University Library had also been visited recently by two people from the NLC but nothing seemed to have come out of the visit. Hanno had met the new Director of the National Library in Taiwan a month before in August who was eager to help. But being new at the position and under the Legislative Yuan, there is a limit to what he can do. Hanno would like to go deeper but it is too early to find a big solution. Time is also needed to assess the amount of the material and to know problems. As the rare books are now part of the University Library collections, the Library wants to put them into a store for safe keeping. It is important that they should be catalogued and scanned before going into store. Hanno wishes to deal with this issue.

Sue Small suggested that Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation could be worth trying as a possible source of funding for the rare books project.

10.7 EASL website and membership list

It is decided that the membership list on the EASL website should be updated. Shenxiao Tong is to obtain membership information from each country as well as to send the membership list to the EASL mailing list for updating. The practice of sending out conference invitations by post will be stopped.

10.7 Possible group visit to Taiwan

Hanno Lecher reported that he had held informal talks with the National Central Library of Taiwan about the feasibility of an EASL group visit to a number of important libraries in Taiwan in the first half of 2009. the NCL might be willing to cover hotel costs, while international flight costs would be met by the group members themselves. Hanno would update EASL members on the development and send out email for further discussion.

11. Elections

Hanno Lecher and Shenxiao Tong were asked to continue in their respective roles as

Chairman and Secretary. This they accepted, but they would like to see the election of a new chairman and secretary next year.

Anne Labitzky-Wagner was elected as new Treasurer. The meeting would like to record thanks to Martin Hanke (who was not able to attend this conference) for his service as Treasurer to the EASL organisation since 2001.

12. Next conference

The next conference will be hosted by Attilio Andreini, Department of East Asian Studies, Università Ca' Foscari di Venezia, in Venice from 9 to 11 September 2009.

The Twenty-eighth EASL conference closed with an expression of thanks to Maja Fuchs and her colleagues for their excellent arrangements.

Shenxiao Tong
EASL Secretary
February 18, Edinburgh