



PAC Centre - Korea Report (2014)

PAC Korea Centre has played an important role for Korean knowledge heritage and the library community since its designation by IFLA in 2008. This report will give information on activities of PAC Centre Korea in 2014.

◎ Support and Cooperation

PAC Korea Center has supported and cooperated with domestic libraries through conferences and seminars. In year 2014, the Centre decided to give intensive supports and cooperation.

Firstly, it held a meeting with librarians of public and university libraries who are responsible for preservation and stack management. The purpose of this meeting was to improve the preservation condition of rare materials which could not receive proper care due to the lack of preservation experts in public and university libraries. During the meeting, the Centre shared the current preservation status of each library and discussed some agendas to support them: a range of supporting programs on the validity of conservation treatment, how to achieve it, the necessity of preservation network for disaster situations, effectiveness and possible problems in establishment of a cooperative deposit building.

Before the meeting, the Centre asked participated libraries to fill in the questionnaire. The questionnaire included questions on the volume of collection, current management status of preservation stacks, urgent problems, kind of support libraries' wish to have and desirable cooperative preservation programs and so on.

The meeting was held in 25th April. Thirteen librarians attended from public and university libraries. The participants mentioned realistic difficulties they have and hoped to have various ways to be supported. Major problems were the lack of space for collections, budget and experts and so on. In the case of a couple of libraries, they already tried to build a cooperative deposit building for their provincial public libraries should be continuously encouraged to establish cooperative deposit buildings. One of proposals at the meeting was to digitize local cultural materials, worth considering as a cooperative preservation program. On the other hand, the conservation treatment support had many problems to achieve it so it would be better to develop education programs and cooperate with other preservation

organizations such as museums and archives. As a future plan, the meeting participants proposed to publish preservation guidelines for libraries and source books in order to promote the importance of disaster preparedness, and develop various education programs. They were also pleased to share their problems and wished to have various supports in the future.



[The meeting with librarians]

After the successful first meeting, the PAC Korea Centre held another professional meeting with conservators for the purpose of learning the new technology in the preservation field on 14th of November 2014. The Center invited Professor Soon-in LEE of Hong-Ik University who is the expert in 3-D printing to give a lecture. Fourteen conservators from museums, galleries and libraries participated in the meeting.

The theme of the meeting was the application of 3D printing in libraries. The meeting presentations included as follows;

- Current 3D printing technology
- Suggestion of 3-D printing technology in preservation field
- Case study of application of 3-D printing in museums and libraries
- Discussion on new technology and cooperation

Professor Lee introduced the application of 3-D printing in restoration of mural in the Palace Museum in China. And he pointed that application of 3-D printing in preservation still needed to be more studied and experienced; however, it would be worth trying to use it. The participants in the meeting introduced their application cases of 3-D printing and shared their

experiences together. The result of participants' discussion on 3-D printing can be applied to develop the conservation materials and restore missing parts and so on. All the participants agreed that there should be more studies and develop cutting-edge techniques to conserve materials. On top of that, libraries should share their own experiences and know-hows for further development.



[The Meeting with conservators]

© Training

PAC Korea Centre has run the preservation workshop since 2007. The workshop was so successful and popular that many librarians exploited what they learned from it at their libraries. However, the workshop was a one-day-education program that it could not deal with a variety of preservation subjects. It focused more on hands-on basic conservation skills and raise awareness of preservation at libraries. The Center realized that it was the time to develop in-depth education programs.

Therefore, the Centre decided to open preservation courses as a librarian training program at the National Library of Korea. The new preservation course was a 3-day program that covered most of preservation issues. Forty five librarians from public libraries attended the preservation course and obtained the practical information.

The content of the preservation course was as below:

- Understanding of preservation in libraries
- Environment control
 - Stack maintenance, temperature/relative humidity/light, mould and pest, digestion facilities
- Preservation of Audio-Visual Materials

- New trends in preservation and Basic recovery of library materials

◎ **Publication**

PAC Centre Korea published *Digitization and Preservation of Newspaper Collections* by translating the whole content of the *International Preservation News no. 56* in Korean and distributed the publications to 300 libraries including public and university libraries.



[Korean version of Digitization and Preservation of Newspaper Collections]

In addition, the Center distributed the *International Preservation News no. 61* to 42 libraries after summarising it in Korean.



[Summary of the International Preservation News No. 61]

4. Others

Sook-Hyeun LEE, the former director of PAC Centre Korea retired in 2014.