

Rob Britt

Coordinator of East Asian Library Services

Summary of Qualifications

My experiences, abilities and accomplishments include organizational, budgetary, technical and language skills. I am a recognized authority on Japanese legal research, and have worked extensively with Chinese and Korean legal materials.

- Satisfied "customers," of my work include law school and other faculty, law school LLM and JD students, library patrons, Gallagher Library Staff, and colleagues nationally and internationally
- Detailed knowledge of Japanese legal materials, both in Japanese language and in English
- up-to-date knowledge of many complex Asian language bibliographic databases, both legal and general
- Responsibility for maintaining an annual budget of over \$75,000 for the purchase of East Asian legal materials,
- Local, national and international consultant on Japanese legal research, CJK library computing and CJK cataloging
- Publication of articles and design of web pages for Japanese legal research
- Professional knowledge and experience in advanced academic research presentation of workshops and professional speeches
- Master of Arts in International Studies (concentration on Japan) from the University of Washington

Publications

[Print](#)

Japan In **Sources of State Practice in International Law**. (Brill, Forthcoming).

Selected Writings of Dan Fenno Henderson. (compiler) In **Law in Japan: a Turning Point**, edited by Daniel H. Foote. Seattle: University of Washington Press, (University of Washington Press, 2007).

Finding the law. with Veronica Taylor, Kyoko Ishida, and John (Jody) Chaffee. in **Japan Business Law Guide**, edited by Veronica Taylor, (CCH International, 2005).

America ni okeru Nihon no hōrei, hanketsu no akusesu [Access to Japanese laws and cases in the United States] in *Nihon Kenkyū Gakujutsu Shiryō Jōhō No Riyō Seibi Ni Kansuru Kokusai Kaigi [Linking research, materials, and information : The Proceedings of an International Conference on the Enhancement of Information Availability for Scholarly Resources in Japanese] Tokyo: The Japan Foundation, 2002).*

Japanese Laws In English : An Index To The EHS Law Bulletin Series. 2nd Edition. Seattle : Marian Gould Gallagher Law Library, University of Washington School of Law, 2000.

This well-known publication, in its second edition, is purchased internationally and recognized as an important tool for Japanese legal research.

Book review: Japanese Business Laws In Western Languages In 26 International Journal Of Legal Information 1-3 1998 270-273.

Version 3 Of RLIN Terminal For Windows Welcomed. 21 RLIN Focus August 1996 p. 7.

The Japanese Legal System And International Trade: Up-To-Date Sources Of Information In English. 82 Law Library Journal. Spring 1990 313-330.

I received a request for a copy of this article from B. Bowonder of the Administrative Staff College of India, who said in his letter, "[this] will be of immense help to me in my research."

Websites / Online

Innovation Creates a Unique Resource for East Asian Legal Research

<http://lib.law.washington.edu/eald/UWLawEALD3-4-13.pdf>

Japanese Legal Research

<http://lib.law.washington.edu/eald/JLR/jres.html>

This well-known website is a pathfinder that points users in the right direction for finding Japanese legal information. Google found about 70 "backward links" from other websites to this site. In an email message, a law student researching Japanese law called this website "*the Rosetta Stone of Japanese Legal Research.*"

Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL) Homepage

<http://www.eastasianlib.org>

As webmaster for this site from 2000 to 2003, I expanded and improved it in many ways, including adding an online CEAL Director, a job page for East Asian Librarians, a page for the Minutes of the CEAL Executive Committee, a schedule for the annual meeting, and many other features

Education

Degree Programs

MA in Library Science Program Courses

1991 - 1992 *University of Washington Seattle, WA*

Completed 15 credits towards the MA in Library Science at the University of Washington.

MA in International Studies (Concentration: Japan)

1985 - 1987 *University of Washington Seattle, WA*

Teaching Assistantship for 1985-86

\$2000.00 Stipend in 1986-87

Studied in Professor John Haley's course "Law in East Asia : Japan"

Advanced course work in Japanese language.

Extensive Japanese language sources for Master's thesis on commitment among Japanese workers

MA in Teaching English as a Second Language

1982 - 1983 *Southern Illinois University Carbondale, IL*

Teaching Assistantship for 1982-83

BA in English Literature (minor: psychology)

1971 - 1975 *Bowling Green State University Bowling Green, OH*

Specialized Training

AACR2, MARC Revision Training

December 2002. 2-day training held at the University of Washington University Libraries.

Certificate of Achievement

February 1997 *3-week training for advanced Japanese librarians at the National Diet Library in Tokyo, Japan.*

I was selected by the Japan Foundation as one of two U.S. librarians to take this training.

OCLC, RLIN and WLN
1987- Received training in using these Bibliographic utilities, including special training for CJK (Chinese, Japanese and Korean) cataloging.

Professional
experience

Coordinator of East Asian Library Services
2010 - Gallagher Law Library, Seattle, WA
Responsible for Reference, Selection, and Cataloging for all East Asia-related materials. Work extensively with budgeting resources for Chinese, Japanese and Korean materials

Japanese Legal Materials Specialist
1987-2010 Gallagher Law Library, Seattle, WA
Responsible for Reference, Selection, and Cataloging for all Japan-related materials. Work extensively with budgeting resources for Chinese, Japanese and Korean materials.

Instructor of English as a Second Language

1983- 1985 Linfield College, McMinnville, OR

Instructor of English as a Second Language

1978-1982 YMCA English School, Nagoya, Japan

Committee
Work

National

2012- IFLP Serials Project
IFLP (the Index to Foreign Legal Periodicals) is a shared resource indexing legal journals published worldwide. The IFLP Serials Project was taken on by members of AALL's (American Association of Law Librarians) FCIL (Foreign Comparative and International Law) committee to provide an Excel spreadsheet list available on the internet of all East Asia-related periodicals included in IFLP, with links to records for holdings in North American libraries. I participate by providing information about Japan-published English language legal periodicals, with links to local holdings in library catalogs.

2012- CEAL Japanese Romanization Working Group
Work with committee members on maintaining an updating the national standard for romanization used in Japanese library catalog.

2008- Chair, CEAL (Council on East Asian Libraries) Library Technology Committee
Maintain CEAL Directory database and CEAL website. Organize technology for annual conference.

2005-2008 CEAL (Council on East Asian Libraries) Library Technology Committee (Member)
Help organize Annual conference meeting; Field questions relating to using Chinese, Japanese, and Korean text in library computer applications; Help webmaster for CEAL Webpage

2003-2009 CEAL (Council on East Asian Libraries) Membership Committee
This committee is responsible for updating the CEAL Directory, and has recently begun two new projects: A CJK Vendor Directory, and a CEAL Librarian Mentor/Mentee Program.

2002-2008 Co-Chair, Digital Information Resources Committee of the NCC

Work with other committee members to provide assistance to North American Librarians in contract and technical issues involved in acquiring Japanese CD-ROMs, on-line databases and other digital materials. Create a website to share and gather information on North American Japan Studies librarians' experiences with acquiring and using these materials.

2002-2008 NCC AskEASL Advisory Committee
Advise the North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources on best policies and procedures for the AskEASL (Ask an East Asian Studies Librarian) online East Asian Studies reference service.

2001-2003 Appointed member, North American Coordinating Council for Japanese Library Materials (NCC)

Attend twice yearly meetings to discuss best ways of allocating funds for the promotion of Japanese libraries and Japanese librarianship in North America.

1999-2003 Chair, CEAL Library Technology Committee (CLT)

Organize Annual conference meeting; Field questions relating to using Chinese, Japanese, and Korean text in library computer applications; Webmaster for CEAL Webpage and CLT Webpage

1996-1999 Member, CEAL Japanese Materials Committee

1993-1994 Member, RLIN For Windows Advisory Group

Participated in testing the beta version of the Research Library Network's (RLIN) new Windows based CJK cataloging system.

At the Gallagher Law Library

2002-2006 Cataloging Issues Committee

2002-2004 Bibliographic Systems Committee

1996-1997 Bibliographic Issues Committee

Deliberated with other committee members on the choice of the best national bibliographic utility for our library. Worked on various issues regarding the library's Innovative Interfaces local library system.

1995- Collection Development Committee

Focus on the library's policy's and selection decisions regarding China, Japan, Korea and Taiwan.

Presentations and Workshops

July 2013

Finding Japanese law In English (part of the panel "PAC-Rim Legal Values: A Primer on Top Legal Resources from Non-English Speaking Jurisdictions" at the annual American Association of Law Libraries meeting, held in Seattle)

Forum for FCIL Core Competencies Program

(At the annual American Association of Law Libraries meeting, held in Seattle; Served as facilitator for the table focusing on Technical Services core competencies for Foreign and International legal materials)

October 2009

Essential Tools for Japanese Legal Research (UW Law School, Japanese Law Class)

February 2009

Essential Materials for Japanese Legal Research
(Presented February 3-5, 2009 at UCSD, UCLA and UC Berkeley)

September-November 2007

New and Improved Tools for Japanese Legal Research
(Presented on September 27th and 28th, 2007 at Harvard and Columbia Law libraries, and on November 11th, 2007 at Cornell University Law School for the American Society of Comparative Law conference)

October 2007

New and Improved Tools for Japanese Legal Research: Mostly in English
(Presented on October 12th, 2007 at the Westpac conference in Honolulu)

July 2007

Some Major Japanese Law Collections in the United States
(Presented at the Japanese Studies Association of Australia (JSAA) Biennial Conference)

July 2007

Back to the Future? Changes in Japanese Legal Research, 1987-2007
(Presented at the Australian Network for Japanese Law (ANJeL) 5th International Conference on Japanese

Law)

July 2007

Japanese Legal Research in the United States
(Presented at a symposium at the University of Melbourne Asian Law Centre, "Legal Education in Asia: Professor Malcolm Smith, In Memoriam")

April 2006

OCLC Users Group Annual Meeting Presentation
Japanese Records and Whether or not to Switch from MARC 8 to Unicode Storage
(with an Innovative Interfaces Millennium local system)

April 2006

Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), Committee on Library Technology Annual Meeting Presentation
The CEAL Website: Our Pioneering Past... and Prospects for the Future

April 2006

Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL), Membership Committee Annual Meeting
Survival Skills in a Bureaucratic System (Roundtable host)

March 2005

OCLC Users Group Annual Meeting
CJK IMEs in Microsoft Windows 2000 and XP: How to set them up and use them with OCLC Connexion
<http://oclcjk.lib.uci.edu/oclcjk05/CJKIMES.ppt>

July 2004

The American Association of Law Libraries
Essential Materials for Japanese Legal Research
This presentation provided an overview for non-specialists of print and online Japanese law-related materials in both English and Japanese. It was held at the annual meeting of AALL in Boston.

March 1994

CEAL Annual Conference
The University of Washington's Experience with Innovative Interfaces CJK System
(Panel discussion with Bill McCloy)

December 2001

Tokyo, Japan
Access to Japanese Laws and Cases in the United States
Presentation in Japanese at the "The Japan Foundation Invitation Program 2001 For An International Conference on the Enhancement of Information Availability for Scholarly Resources in Japanese Studies" a conference held in Tokyo, Japan, and sponsored by the Japan Foundation. I was invited to speak. This presentation was featured on Japanese TV (J TV) in a half-hour summary of the conference (Videotape with English translation available).

March 1999

Harvard University
Working with Japanese and Your Systems People
Presentation at a two-day work shop held prior to the 1999 CEAL annual meeting.
I used a PowerPoint slide presentation to help Japanese librarians understand the basics of successfully implementing Japanese scripts on U.S. library computer systems.

1997-

University of WA Law School
Occasionally give one-hour presentation on Japanese legal research to interested students.

March 1994

Harvard University
Doing Japanese Library Work With Windows Software
Introduced Japanese librarians to basic strategies for adding Japanese to documents in Windows.

Compliments

Several publications by Law School faculty and PhD students have singled me out for my help in preparing the work:

- The "Acknowledgements" section of Prof. John O. Haley's acclaimed 1991 book, "Authority Without Power" states: "Special thanks are also due...especially to Rob Britt...for [his] many efforts in facilitating my research."
- The Acknowledgements to "Law and Industrial Relations: China and Japan after World War II" by University of Washington Law School Asian Law PhD Vai Lo Lo thanks "Robert R. Britt...for [his] efforts in facilitating my research."
- The acknowledgement to a *Pacific Rim Law and Policy Journal* article by Thomas Leo Madden titled *An Explanation of Japan's Product Liability Law* states, "I wish to extend warmest appreciation and thanks to...Mr. Rob Britt...generally for his constant willingness to assist and specifically for his help in inserting the Japanese characters into the footnotes of this translation."

I have also received numerous notes and emails praising me for prompt, accurate, and helpful service. These include:

- the late Prof. Dan Fenno Henderson (many handwritten notes):
 - Oct 1, 1997: "You were most kind (and efficient) in finding and sending the comments of the changes in the [Japanese] Code of Civil Procedure. I truly appreciate it."
 - Nov. 2, 1995: "I want to thank you for your superb support in writing my "lawyers" paper...Many thanks."
- email from Scott Edward Harrison, then (June 30, 1993) the East Asian Law Librarian at Harvard University:

"I do appreciate the work you've done on the serial records you've input in RLIN. It is really good to have this cataloging available. You can't imagine how much time it saves - well, I guess you can. Anyway, thanks for your help."
- email praising the Japanese Legal Research Webpage as the "Rosetta Stone of Japanese Legal Research."
- photograph and acknowledgement in "The Research Libraries Group News" (no. 35, Fall 1994)
- Many complimentary notes and emails from Bill McCloy and Penny Hazelton of the Gallagher Law Library
- 1998 memo from Prof. Don Clarke on my presentation to his class on Japanese Legal research stated (referring to both Bill McCloy and myself, "As usual, they did the same outstanding job that has come to be par for the course around here. In particular they generated an excellent set of written materials that, at least for the jurisdictions with which I'm familiar, is unequalled in breadth and depth anywhere."
- December 27, 1995 letter (accompanied by a coffee mug from their firm) from the law Thomas Rodes and Glenn Hoetker of the law office Dewey Ballantine in Washington D.C.:

"Thank you very much for taking time out of your day to talk both Glenn and myself through the labyrinth of Japanese legal research. Your thoughts on sources and how to get [them]

will save us a lot of time and effort....Thanks again for all your help..."

Professional memberships

- American Association of Law Librarians (AALL)
- Association of Asian Studies (AAS), Council on East Asian Libraries (CEAL)
- North American Coordinating Council on Japanese Library Resources(NCC) (appointed member)

Languages

- Japanese (fluent; Completed 3rd year Japanese at the University of Washington; in addition, an independent study in which I translated Japanese academic articles into English)
- Korean (some reading knowledge)
- Spanish (reading knowledge: 3 years in High School, one year in College)
- Chinese (some reading knowledge)