

**INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION TO REVEAL
RARE CHINESE MATERIALS
HIDDEN FOR HALF A CENTURY**

by

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Co-PIs of the UW-UBC CLIR Project: Discovering Modern China

Overview

- ▶ Funded by CLIR in 2013, our project, “Discovering Modern China,” is an international collaboration between University of Washington Libraries and University of British Columbia Libraries (Canada) to reveal the hidden treasures of Chinese language materials, including rare books, special collections, archival materials, etc. printed from the 14th to the early 20th century.
- ▶ Project goal: catalog 2000 rare and special hidden Chinese collections to make them discoverable to scholars worldwide on OCLC WorldCat
- ▶ Project was launched in June 2014, when UW & UBC matching funds hired students to search the hidden treasures to identify important titles for original cataloging

UW & UBC Asian libraries

- ▶ UW East Asia Library & UBC Asian Library—among the best of such libraries in North America
- ▶ UW and UBC collections: unique rare and special Chinese materials



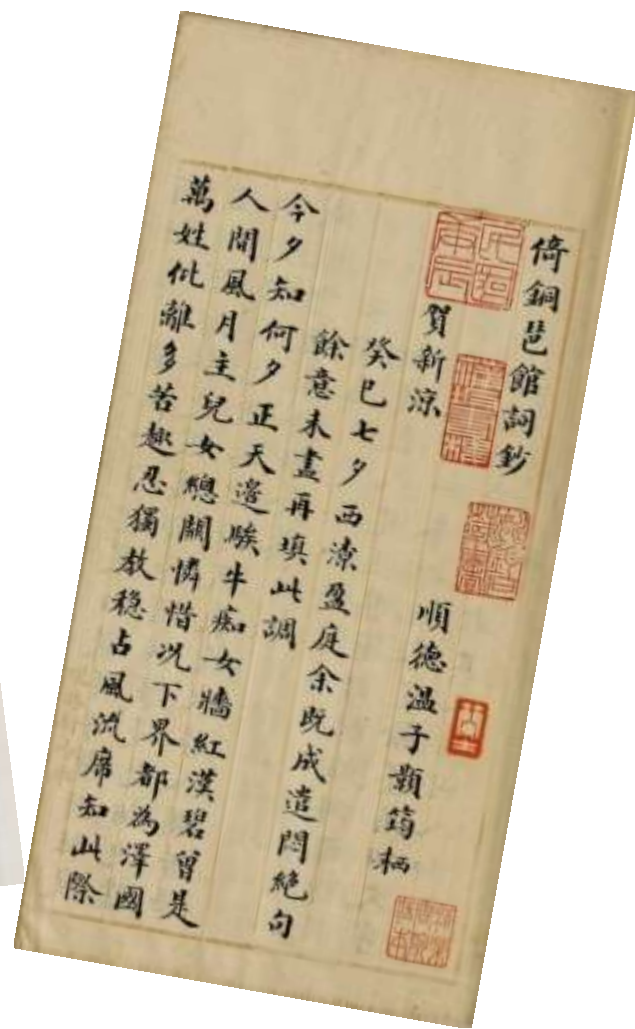
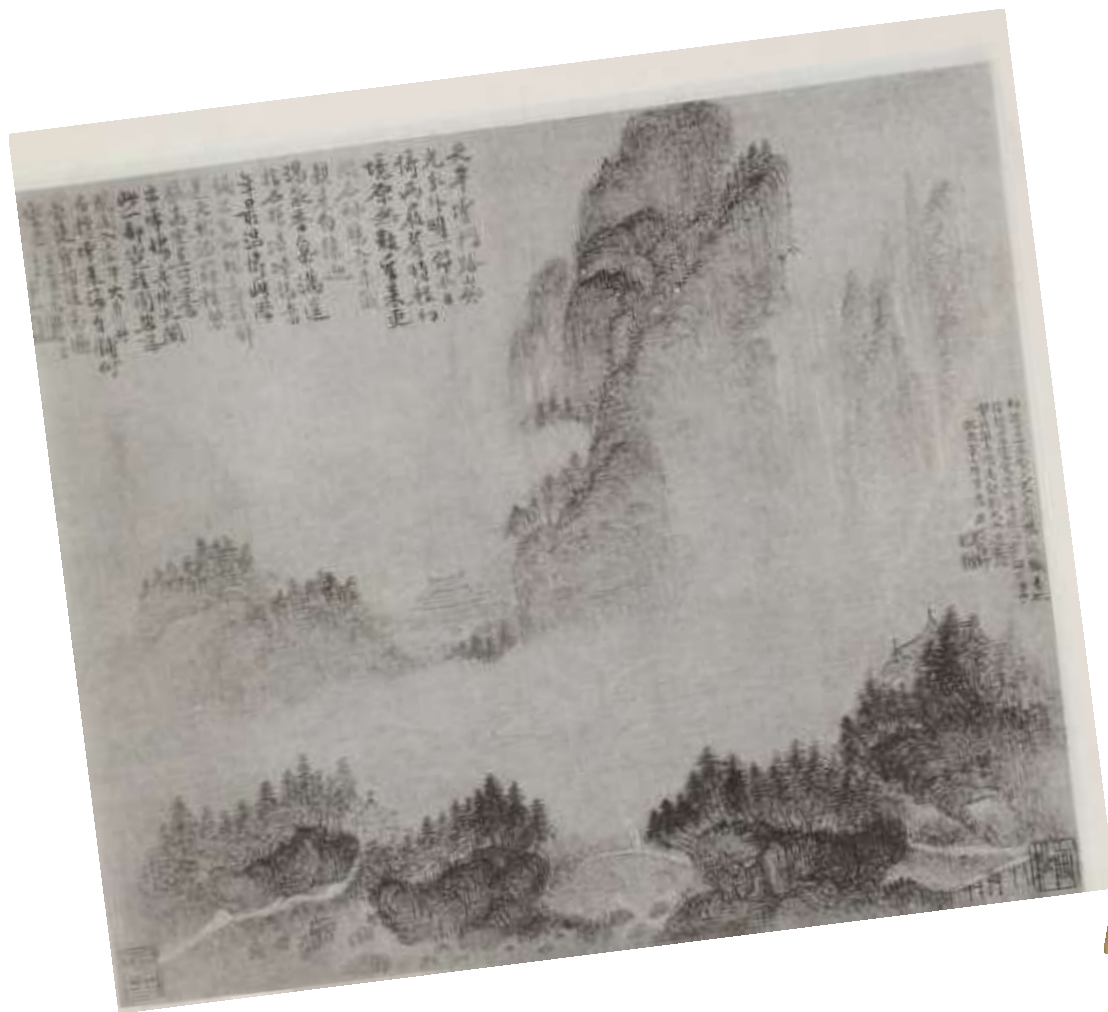
← Wooden Fish Books

Chinese Republican Era Publications →





Dynastic Annals, printed in 1796. Only copy existing



Painting album and handwritten poetry book at UBC

UW & UBC Enjoys long tradition of collaboration



UW-UBC CLIR Team meeting during a day trip of UBC Team to UW On Feb 4, 2015

Collaboration is the trademark of our CLIR project:

- ▶ Project Planning & management: Joint Action Plan; quarterly report system; Google Drive to share all project documents
- ▶ Collaboration in Applying Cataloging Guidelines and Rules
- ▶ Sharing Staff Expertise: UW East Asia Library Tech Services provide training for staff of both institutions;
- ▶ Resource Sharing Worldwide: benefit of joining CALIS rare book system through CLIR librarian



Staff training for CLIR project

Communication & Promotion

- ▶ Monthly Skype meetings
- ▶ Quick discussion and image sharing via social media
- ▶ Sharing documents through Google Drive
- ▶ Day-trip to each other's libraries for on site meetings
- ▶ Workshops, conference presentations, websites and teaching programs

Curriculum Development & Project Student Assistant



Optimize the result of the project:

Satellite projects

- ▶ NACO authority work
- ▶ copy cataloging thousands of more books
- ▶ Preservation: \$12,500 received from a UW internal grant
- ▶ Title page image linking to holding records and inviting user comments
- ▶ Prepare for future projects of digitization, publication of bibliographies, fascinating stories of CLIR project discoveries, participation in other international projects such as the union catalog of Chinese rare-books, etc.

Challenges of International Collaboration

- ▶ Working with different policies, laws, and regulations of different countries
- ▶ Visa issues

Reflections

The CLIR project has provided us an invaluable learning opportunity about international collaboration. As libraries and information services become increasingly globalized, there will be more need for international collaborations. We hope the lessons learned and experiences gained from our CLIR international collaborative project will benefit future CLIR applications and projects internationally.

Thank you!

