Resource Sharing for Chinese Studies:

A co-operative approach among Scottish University Libraries

Shenxiao Tong
East Asian Studies Librarian
University of Edinburgh
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Background

- HEFCE review of Chinese studies in the UK (1997)
- SHEFC strategy (1999)
- Library consortium: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen & Abertay University Libraries
Method and Scope of Collaboration

Models of resource sharing:

- Bibliographical data (e.g. RSLP)
- Library systems (e.g. Voyager Group)
- Reciprocal borrowing (e.g. SCONUL)
- Consortial approach to e-resources
- Open access to institutional repositories
SHEFC Chinese project collaboration extended to:

- Library post
- Language expertise
- Bibliographical service
- Collection policy
- Full library service (staff & students)
- Fund management
- Project website
# Method and scope of collaboration

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<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Contributing roles</th>
<th>Benefiting areas</th>
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<td>Central management</td>
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Spread of subject expertise

Abertay: IT expertise, web
Edinburgh: language, literature, history, business
Glasgow: politics, economics
Aberdeen: sociology
Major achievements

- Substantial increase in library resources (£98,900 worth of materials), mostly for research
- Cost saving through consortial approach & avoidance of duplication
- Website as information and service centre; important for student recruitment
- High profile publicity (website launch, book donation & EASL conference)
Beyond the SHEFC-funding

Ended -- Shared library post and material funds

Continued --

– University commitment to MCS programme
– Consortial subscription to e-resources
– Collaborative cataloguing - extended (Chinese, Arabic & Russian)
– Reciprocal provision of library membership
Issues and way forward

-- Compare SHEFC with CASAW

- Information resources for research and/or teaching
- Resource sharing for CASAW?
- Funding issue – for library materials or scholarships, or both?
- Opportunity for CASAW

-- Review of User Requirements for Digitised Resources in Islamic Studies (May 2008)

-- DIWAN: Digitisation of Islamic Manuscripts Project (?)
Thank you!

Shenxiao Tong
shenxiao.tong@ed.ac.uk