Looking at the modern history of U.S.-Japan relations, it can be said that the United States made tremendous contributions in support of Japanese libraries. Cases often cited include assistance for restoration of the Tokyo Imperial University Library after the Great Kanto Earthquake of 1923, and the establishment of the National Diet Library and the Japan Library School at Keio University after World War II. However, the U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services for Japanese Librarians (USFS) has attracted less attention from historians of Japanese libraries or students of U.S.-Japan cultural relations, in spite of its influence on various aspects of library and information services in Japan and in the United States.

The USFS was organized by the American Library Association (ALA) with financial support from the Rockefeller Foundation (RF). It represented national, public, academic, and special libraries, the following nine Japanese librarians participated: Haruki
Amatsuchi (National Diet Library, formerly Japan Science Council), Naomi Fukuda (International House of Japan Library), Sumio Goto (Nihon University Library), Masao Hayashi (Osaka Prefectural Library), Toshio Iwazaru (Kyoto University Library), Yasumasa Oda (National Diet Library), Takahisa Sawamoto (Japan Library School, Keio-Gijuku University), Shozo Shimizu (Koiwa Library, Edogawa Ward, Tokyo), and Heihachiro Suzuki (National Diet Library). They left Japan on October 3, 1959 for San Francisco, spent two months in the United States, and came back to Tokyo on December 4, 1959; Seven seminars organized by the ALA Committee on the U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services for Japanese Librarians were held in different places in these two months, as well as visits to many libraries and organizations.¹

The report on USFS was published both in English and in Japanese,² and the Japanese version was, for a report of this kind, relatively widely distributed to libraries in Japan.³ Since it was published soon after the members returned to Japan, it does not indicate the longer effects of the USFS on Japanese libraries. Only an article of anecdotal talk by USFS members published two and a half decades later⁴ suggests the long-range effects of what they learned from their travel to the United States.

Naomi Fukuda (1907-2007), headed the Japanese librarians participating in the USFS.⁵ She was crucial to the realization of this program,⁶ although no reference to her leadership is
mentioned in the reports. Therefore my research questions at the Rockefeller Archive Center (RAC) regarding the USFS were twofold: 1) to substantiate how this seminar originally started and 2) to find the American side’s views on supporting it. In this paper, I will start by looking at how it originated and got funded, as well as the intentions of the organizers and the funder. Then I will examine the long-term effects of the USFS in the history of Japanese libraries and other areas will be evaluated as well. The detailed contents of the USFS, how it was executed, and its significance to the ALA are outside the scope of this paper.

The International House of Japan Library

Naomi Fukuda, a former Rockefeller Foundation fellow, joined the International House of Japan (IHJ) in 1953. IHJ was incorporated on August 27, 1952, with the financial assistance of the RF and soon an IHJ library was set up. When Fukuda was hired by the IHJ, it was still operating out of a small office located in the Marunouchi area.

Charles B. Fahs of the RF had left an entry about Fukuda in his diary of May 19, 1954, “Apparently a considerable part of her work goes beyond the development and maintenance of the House’s own collection. It is, rather, assisting various visiting scholars in making necessary contacts with other institutions, particularly the National Diet Library.”

Fukuda was described as being vital in assisting researchers, not confined within the
boundary of an ordinary library. When Fahs wrote, “visiting scholars,” presumably they were from countries outside Japan. Japanese researchers usually did not, and may still not, ask assistance from librarians. Although the IHJ library did not have a substantial collection because of limited space at that time, Fukuda was active in providing reference service to visiting scholars. A five-year report of the IHJ to the RF noted that, “To overcome budgetary and space restrictions special emphasis has been placed on reference services to locate materials in other libraries.”

Fukuda obtained space for the library when the IHJ moved to a new building in June 1955. While never large, it was a model library representing the American style. For example, it had an open rack for magazines and periodicals, although most Japanese libraries at the time had neither magazines in their collection, nor open stacks in the library.

Reference Services, a New Practice for Japanese Libraries

Since the IHJ Library was a new-style library in Japan, modeled after American libraries, some librarians gathered there to study the American style. Also, responding to user needs, the IHJ library held group-study meetings for the improvement of inter-library cooperation and loans. “For librarians from major libraries in Tokyo the library has long conducted a Saturday Library Seminar. This group meets once a month to exchange information and to study means for
furthering cooperation among libraries. One of the findings of the monthly studies group indicates that reference services in Japanese libraries have not been developed to meet the needs of modern research.”

For two years, beginning in 1955, Fukuda hosted a study group concerning library building and functions, and from 1956 she organized another study group on inter-library cooperation, which later was called the Saturday Study Group.

The preface of the USFS report vividly describes the bewilderment of Japanese librarians stemming from their readings on modern reference services in American libraries.

“Not infrequently one or another of them would say that such and such was done in American reference libraries or that American librarians believed so and so or might have good ideas about this or that. …. Despite much reading and questioning, it was obvious their knowledge and understanding of American library reference services were fragmentary and even superficial.”

Reading relevant articles from library journals, the group members enthusiastically discussed the issues raised there. When Fukuda told Fahs about this group when he was visiting Japan, Fahs noted that it was necessary to foster democracy through library activities, and that the American side wanted to know about Japanese libraries, and they wanted the Japanese side to learn about American libraries as well, and that a U.S.–Japan exchange program could be financially supported by the RF, while realizing such a program would require ALA support.

This anecdote can be traced in documents at the RAC. On January 8th and 9th of 1958,
Fahs interviewed Jack Dalton, Director of International Relations Office, at the ALA, who had returned from a trip to Asia. In the record of the interview, Fahs wrote that in Japan Dalton received a proposal from Naomi Fukuda regarding a special study seminar in the reference field in the U.S. The same record shows that Fahs and Dalton discussed how to raise the prestige of trained librarians in the Japanese system. They shared a common interest in how to get trained librarians effectively into positions of leadership in libraries in Japan, while Fukuda’s proposal was focused more on the problem of raising the level of reference services in Japanese libraries.

Fukuda sent a draft proposal to Dalton with copies to John M. Cory (Chairman, International Relations Committee of the ALA), and Fahs. In the cover letter Fukuda referred to “the enclosed plan which Mr. Cory kindly drafted for me after he discussed the matter with Dr. Fahs,” and wrote that Cory and Fahs met in Japan and discussed the library situation there. The purpose of this program as stated in the draft proposal was:

To introduce a selected group of established and promising Japanese librarians to the nature of library reference services in the United States, with particular attention to inter-library cooperation and division of responsibility, in the hope of stimulating detailed study and discussion of concrete steps to improve reference services in Japanese libraries. It is called a “field seminar” because certain Japanese will travel to the U.S. and investigate conditions there.

The schedule in the proposal indicated that the field seminar in the United States was to be held in October-November, 1958. However, it was only on May 3, 1958, that Fahs in Tokyo wrote in
his diary that “Finally, Matsumoto and Howes gave CBF a draft of Miss Fukuda’s proposal for a U.S. seminar for reference librarians.”

It seems that the IHJ administration was not so enthusiastic about the program. In the May proposal, the names of suggested participants from the National Diet Library, university libraries, public libraries, and special libraries were not typed as in the original proposal, but were handwritten by Fukuda. The rest is almost identical to the original except the schedule was left out.

American Response to the Idea of a “Reference Seminar”

The ALA International Relations Committee Chairman, John M. Cory, traveled to Japan in May 1958. In his report about his activities there he wrote that he met several times with Fahs and Fukuda and discussed the field seminar, and noted that rapid consideration would be required of the ALA Committee and Board because the RF wanted to act in June. Cory also pointed out that Dalton’s expectations included a project to strengthen the status of university libraries in Japan, although Fukuda’s plan was focused on something else. None the less, both he and Fahs seemed to agree that her plan was a worthy project.

A few weeks later in June, Dalton wrote to Robert Gitler, Executive Secretary of the Library Education Division of the ALA, and former professor at the Japan Library School, asking for his advice on this project. It was Dalton’s understanding that Fahs’s interest was in
bringing over a group of higher-ranking university librarians, who might be able to accomplish something after returning to Japan. Dalton wrote that Fahs needed a strong statement from Gitler, Cory, Fukuda, and himself “on what such a seminar might be expected to accomplish for the good of librarianship and education generally in Japan.” He also was wondering about the idea of bringing people to the United States, which might end up to be a touristic venture.  

Gitler’s response to Dalton’s letter is unknown now, but it must have been positive because the ALA kept moving forward for realization of the project. It was desired to hold the seminar in the fall of 1958, but there was not enough preparation time to have it then. In August of 1958, Fahs met with Cory and Dalton, and learned they would like to consider the seminar for the fall of 1959. Cory mentioned that although the seminar was not directly linked to the strengthening of university libraries, improving reference services had a real value in a long-term contribution to the general library problem.  

October 1958 was toward the end of the three-year period of the RF’s grant for the International Relations Office of the ALA. Fahs determined through telephone conversations with David Clift, Executive Director of the ALA, that requests for the over-all project of the International Relations staff and the request for a seminar on library reference services for Japanese librarians would be brought to the RF. Development of libraries in foreign countries was an important agenda for the ALA and the RF at the time.
Grant Proposal

The Proposal, prepared on October 28, 1958, for a U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services of Interest to Japanese Librarians, was submitted by the ALA International Relations Committee to a meeting of the RF Trustees. The purpose of the project, as described in the application, was clearly focused on reference services, and particular attention was “given to the American attitudes toward such services, to the bibliographical resources used, the type of librarian providing the service, and to the cooperative devices for linking diverse American libraries in the interests of the individual user.” The proposal pointed out that “in Japanese libraries, reference and advisory services are either non-existent or are normally provided on a limited and exclusive basis only to a few privileged users of the library (e.g., ranking university professors),” and that “Japanese university, public and special libraries have not fully understood the type of library service which American libraries consider to be the core of their professional contribution to the support of scholarship, research, instruction and popular education.”

At the RF Trustees meeting held on December 2-3, 1958, Charles Fahs made an oral presentation of the project. Comments at the meeting noted that although the number of libraries in Japan was growing, the utilization of books and improvement of services was hampered by poor management and poorly trained personnel. It was also pointed out that “the seminar on
library reference services now proposed is only one step in the process, but an important one. Improvement of such services will contribute to all of the other interests of The Rockefeller Foundation in Japan.”

The proposal was formally approved by the Trustees in the category of “Humanities: Libraries (Expanded Program in Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, and Africa).” This was to be a two-year program beginning on January 1, 1959, that included preparations both in Japan and the United States, and publication of a report. The Trustees meeting minutes recorded that the future implications of the grant were none at the time, “but the officers expect to continue interest in the improvement of the Japanese library system and to be presenting other projects in this field from time to time.”

The proposed grant was for $40,450, included travel and per diem for sixty days for ten visiting Japanese, honoraria and travel for American leaders, secretarial and administrative expenses and contingencies, and expenses in Japan. The RF also provided $111,600 to the ALA in 1956 for its activities in overseas library development for a period of three years. For library development and education in Japan, the Foundation provided $7,500 to Keio University for its medical library and $202,800 for its Library School (namely the Japan Library School), $58,340 to the National Diet Library, and $100,000 for the building of a new Science and Medical Library at Osaka National University.
Compared to these grants to particular libraries and educational programs, the USFS was a unique type of program in some of the following ways: it was a joint venture of the ALA and Japanese librarians with Naomi Fukuda at the center; it was an intensive study program of American library practices in the field of reference and advisory services; and it was an exchange program to bring ten Japanese librarians for sixty days to visit libraries and other professional institutions in the United States.

**Preparations for the Seminar Trip**

The ALA soon received the grant from the RF and appointed an advisory committee to help guide the project. The American advisers were all former Keio Library School professors, including Frances Cheney as the chairman, Moore, Cory and Gitler. At the ALA, Dalton asked various librarians to send informational literature about their libraries for the Japanese participants to study. Ten Japanese participants were listed in ALA’s Press Release for the project; Haruki Amatsuchi, Naomi Fukuda, Sumio Goto, Keichiro Harada, Masao Hayashi, Toshio Iwazaru, Yasumasa Oda, Takahisa Sawamoto, Shozo Shimizu, and Heihachiro Suzuki. Although how these members were selected is unknown, they represented various types of libraries, i.e., public, college and university, national, and special libraries, as well as library
educators from the east and west of Japan.

Fukuda wrote an announcement in Japanese for the USFS dated March 20, 1959, and organized an advisory committee of Japanese leading scholars and librarians including Yasaka Takagi, professor of American studies at the University of Tokyo. Before the first meeting was held on April 12, 1959 at the International House of Japan, Fukuda had the group of reference librarians on a regular schedule of reading. The documents of this meeting are held in the Takagi Collection and contain fact sheets on American libraries of several types, including the Smithsonian Institution Library, the Library of Congress, the University of Washington Library, the School of Library Science of Western Reserve University, the Chicago Public Library, the Cleveland Public Library, the Department of Agriculture Library and many more. The fact sheet consisted of the following items for each library:

1) Location
2) Founded
3) Chief of the Service
4) General Organization
5) Service to be rendered, community to be served
6) Size of Collection
7) Circulation
8) Personnel
9) Budget
10) Open Hours
11) General Remarks

The members made a literature study about the libraries they planned to visit and shared the
knowledge on American libraries among themselves through research on each library.

Besides learning beforehand about American libraries, the members were preparing talks or presentations on Japanese libraries for American librarians. At the first meeting held in April, short reports mostly on one sheet of paper written in English were submitted by the participant librarians. Seven such reports were left in the Takagi Collection: “Private university libraries in Japan” by Goto; “Present state and prospect of research and information activities in Japanese agriculture” by Harada; “What keeps the public library stagnant: Attempts to improve the services, taken by Osaka Prefectural Library” by Hayashi; “The present status of reference work in national university libraries in Japan” by Iwazaru; “Reference services of the National Diet Library” by Oda; “Inter-library cooperation in the Edogawa Ward and in the Koto District and approach to library cooperation in Tokyo” by Shimizu; and “National Diet Library’s inter-library cooperation” by Suzuki.

On May 1, 1959, Charles Fahs met for an hour with Fukuda and the group making preparations for the fall seminar in the U.S. He wrote in his diary, “Impressive in the careful survey they are making of libraries which might be visited,” and that “Fukuda is also going to bring into the discussions librarians who will not be included in the trip. This group have [sic] been studying some of the cooperative setups in the U.S., e.g., the Mid-West Deposit Library and discussed quite freely what along these lines might be done in Tokyo.”
The preparation activities were intense and thorough. According to the “Minutes of the Second Tokyo Session,” dated September 8, 1959, preparations for the Seminar since the First Tokyo Session had been twofold: a series of meetings with advisors (May 20, meeting for special libraries; June 10, meeting for the National Diet Library; June 15, meeting for college and university libraries; June 25, meeting in the Kansai area; June 20, meeting for public libraries; July 15, meeting in the Tokyo area); and a series of study meetings with American guest speakers when possible.

Through these meetings it was agreed that the aim of the seminar would be to study American libraries through their reference services in order to find means for developing library services in Japan. However, the members found gaps in the advisors’ comprehension of reference services. The group interpreted this relatively weak interest in reference services “as indicative of the low stage of development of such services in Japan,” and as a result they pointed out that “This was one of the reasons for the need for Japanese librarians to study reference services in the States.”

While the aim was learning from America, mutual understanding was also thought to be important to fulfill this aim, so the Japanese participants wrote reports which would help American librarians understand the problems of Japanese libraries. The following papers were
prepared for this purpose: “Some Aspects of Japanese Libraries” by Fukuda; “Science Council of Japan and its Reference Service” by Amatsuchi; “The Problems of Japanese University and College Libraries and their Services to Users” by Goto and Iwazaru; “Publishing and Libraries in Japan” by Goto; “Present View of Osaka Prefectural Library and Problems Common to Public Libraries” by Hayashi; “Reference Service in the National Diet Library and its Background” by Oda and Suzuki; “Bookstores in Japan” by Sawamoto; “Reference Services at the Koiwa Library” by Edogawa Ward, Tokyo; and “How books are read by school children in Edogawa Ward, a Brief Report of a Survey” by Shimizu. The reports submitted to the second session were more substantial and focused compared to the earlier reports, most of which were only one page long. Intensive preparation had brought progress to the group.

In the process of forming the idea of “field seminar” the year before, Dalton had written to Gitler about his and Fahs’s doubts concerning the program. This skepticism faded when Charles Fahs met the group in May. He wrote after the meeting, “If they keep this up until November, they should be in a good position to ask intelligent questions.”

The Field Trip and Reports

The USFS group left Tokyo and arrived in San Francisco on October 3, 1959. They travelled to Seattle, Chicago, Urbana, Ann Arbor, Cleveland, Boston, New York, Philadelphia,
Washington D.C., Atlanta, Nashville, St. Louis, Los Angeles, and Honolulu, and returned to Tokyo on December 4, 1959. Seminars were held in Berkeley (October 5, 1959), Chicago (October 12, and 17, 1959), New York (November 4, 1959), Philadelphia (November 7, 1959), Washington D.C. (November 12 and 14, 1959), Nashville (November 20, 1959), and Los Angeles (November 27, 1959). The ALA Committee on the U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services for Japanese Librarians appointed liaison librarians and consultants for each seminar: Everett Moore (Head, Reference Department, University of California Library, Los Angeles) for San Francisco and Los Angeles; Robert L. Gitler (Executive Secretary, Library Education Division, ALA) for Chicago and vicinity; George Bonn (Chief, Science and Technology Department, New York Public Library) for the New York and the Philadelphia vicinities; and Frances Neel Cheney (Associate Professor, Peabody Library School) for the Washington D.C. and Nashville vicinities.45

From the first seminar held on the Berkeley campus of the University of California to the last one in Los Angeles, the focus was on reference services. While learning about the situation and services of American libraries as background information, the Japanese participants discussed with the American consultants particular aspects of reference services. Discussion topics included the organization of providing service in various types of libraries, training for service, resources for service, influence of the Library Service Act in New Jersey, and the roles
of state and federal libraries for service. The “Summary Report of the Seminars” prepared by
the ALA Committee describes the questions raised by Japanese participants at each seminar.

On the other hand, the Japanese version of the USFS Report, *Amerika no Toshakan*,
gives summaries of the seminars from a different angle. It is arranged by the following major
topics:

1) Reference books and their collection
2) Reference service (concept and contents)
3) Problems and current status of subject departmentalization
4) Reference questions
5) Organization and activities of library cooperation
6) The Library Services Act
7) The mission of national libraries
8) Comparison of classification catalogs and dictionary catalogs
9) Photo reproduction and copyright
10) National library week and
11) Mechanization of library service

The first section of the Japanese summary report of the seminar begins with the
statement, “Development of reference service depends on growth of reference books.” It reports
on the case of Isadore Gilbert Mudge at Columbia University Library in the early nineteenth
century which eventually led to the publication of the *Guide to Reference Books*. It is
noteworthy that the importance of reference books, or reference tools, is mentioned at the very
beginning of the report in Japanese. This ideal would be realized in the following years.
The Impact of the USFS on Japanese Library Services

The USFS group brought tremendous actual knowledge and direct observation about libraries and library functions back to Japan. They held report meetings in several places after returning to Japan to maximize the effect of their findings.

As seen in the previous section, one of their findings was that there were tools to support and to facilitate reference work in the American library, and in order to strengthen reference service they too should have the tool of tools, namely, a guide to reference books. This was a practical discovery through the USFS experiences, as the importance of such a guide was not obvious in Japan at the time. Naomi Fukuda decided to publish one for Japanese libraries. She soon organized an editorial committee of nine members, and secured funding for this project (2.5 million yen) from the RF. The first edition of Nihon no Sanko Tosho (Guide to Japanese Reference Books) was consequently published by the International House of Japan in May 1962. It took fifteen months to compile and more than a hundred people collaborated and contributed annotations. The first thousand copies soon sold out, and an additional thousand copies were printed in August 1962.

Some American scholars suggested publishing it in English. Fukuda negotiated with the National Science Foundation, and it was decided that the ALA would be its publisher. The
English version\textsuperscript{51} was published in June 1966, funded by the Asia Foundation and the RF. After publication of a supplementary volume to the Japanese version, an English translation\textsuperscript{52} of it was published by the Library of Congress. Along with Fukuda’s later work, \textit{Bibliography of Reference Works for Japanese Studies} (Center for Japanese Studies, University of Michigan, 1979), these still serve as the fundamental bibliographies for Japanese studies in the U.S. The publication of guides to Japanese reference books in Japanese and in English can be regarded as the most direct outcome of the USFS, a lasting influence of the USFS, both in the history of Japanese libraries, and in the history of Japanese studies in the United States.

Public libraries in Japan were also affected by the USFS. In the early 1960s the Japan Library Association (JLA) worked on setting a standard for small and medium libraries, publishing in 1963 a notable report on the management of medium and small-sized public libraries,\textsuperscript{53} which played a role in pulling forward public libraries. It proposed two major policies: differentiation of functions between prefectural and smaller public libraries, and promotion of the circulation of books. One of the participants in the USFS, Shozo Shimizu, was a key person in putting this report together. Shimizu had observed reference services in public libraries in America in a structural way: reference service was demanded by patrons based on a certain level of the circulation of books, and therefore an increase in circulation was crucial in public libraries;\textsuperscript{54} reflecting this view, the report centered on the circulation issue.\textsuperscript{55} Sumio Goto
appraised this development in public libraries in Japan as one of the achievements of the USFS.\textsuperscript{56}

If we further delve into the contributions to librarianship in Japan of the individual participants, many more important accomplishments influenced by the USFS can be found. One of the USFS members, Yasumasa Oda, is a good example. After he published a basic book on reference work from the JLA in 1966, he became a pioneering leader in the mechanization of library catalogs in Japan. Although this sort of influence may have been less visible, it can also be regarded as an indirect accomplishment of the USFS.

**Conclusion**

As seen earlier in this paper, the American side, including the ALA and the RF, was concerned about the USFS, worrying that it might end up a touristic venture. They wanted to raise the level of Japanese libraries by focusing on higher-ranking university librarians who might be able to accomplish something after returning to Japan. On the contrary, the USFS brought relatively young librarians representing various types of libraries to the U.S. It centered on the study of reference services, not solely addressing the general administration of libraries. This firmly focused purpose of the USFS yielded the good results of the trip, which had a lasting impact on Japanese library services.

One of the reasons for success rests on the fact that the interest in reference services in
America came from young librarians on the shop floors who were trying to improve library services in Japan, and because reference service is one of the core values of library service, observation of library activities through this lens can be productive. Young librarians could be active in the field for a longer time than higher-ranking managers, as the latter were rotated to different positions in rather a short time. Another reason for the success of the project was the thorough preparations for the trip and for the seminars both in Japan and the United States. It was of course the strong leadership of Naomi Fukuda that made this happen as well. The USFS can be regarded as a model case for an international exchange program in terms of outcome and lasting influence, particularly in Japanese library services.

*Editor's Note:* This research report is presented here with the author’s permission but should not be cited or quoted without the author’s consent.

Rockefeller Archive Center Research Reports Online is a periodic publication of the Rockefeller Archive Center. Edited by Erwin Levold, Research Reports Online is intended to foster the network of scholarship in the history of philanthropy and to highlight the diverse range of materials and subjects covered in the collections at the Rockefeller Archive Center. The reports are drawn from essays submitted by researchers who have visited the Archive Center, many of whom have received grants from the Archive Center to support their research.

The ideas and opinions expressed in this report are those of the author and are not intended to represent the Rockefeller Archive Center.
ENDNOTES:

1 Background information on the USFS is based on its report: American Libraries: Report of the U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services for Japanese Librarians. Tokyo, Japan: U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services for Japanese Librarians, 1960, p. 147. (Hereafter referred to as the USFS Report). The ALA Committee consisted of the following members: John M. Cory (Chief, Circulation Department, New York Public Library), Robert L. Gitler (Executive Secretary, Library Education Division, ALA; Secretary, ALA Committee on Accreditation), Everett Moore (Head Reference Department, University of California, Library, Los Angeles), and Frances Neel Cheney, Chairman (Associate Professor, Peabody Library School). USFS Report, pp. 57-58.

2 The Japanese version is Amerika no Toshokan. Tokyo, Japan: Amerika Toshokan Kenkyu Chosadan, 1960, 96 pages. The English and Japanese versions are not identical. The Japanese version consists of reports on American libraries by Japanese participants and a summary of seminars on reference services, lacking the study papers on Japanese libraries, which are included in the English version.

3 As of January 2011, it is held by forty-nine university libraries, according to NACSIS Webcat, an online union catalog of Japanese academic libraries, and twenty-six major prefectural libraries, according to the National Diet Library’s union catalog, “Yunikanetto,” as of May 18, 2011.


6 Fukuda et al, “26 nen mae no Amerika toshokan shisatsu dan,” p. 3.

7 Fukuda, a humanities fellow of the Rockefeller Foundation (RF), spent one year at the Orientalia section of the Library of Congress in 1939-40.

8 From the Articles of Endowment of the International House of Japan, Inc.: “Article 3. The object of this Foundation shall be to promote cultural exchange and intellectual cooperation between the people of Japan and the peoples of America and other countries, and thereby to contribute to the cultivation of international friendship and understanding. Article 4. To achieve the object referred to in the preceding Article, this Foundation shall conduct the following activities: … 4. Developing and maintaining a small library of works principally related to intercultural relations, intellectual cooperation, international affairs, the nature of democratic processes, and relevant topics.”

9 Excerpt from Charles B. Fahs diary, 5/19/54 in Rockefeller Foundation Archives (RFA), Record Group (RG) 2 – 1954, Series 609 Japan (ag-I), Box 45, Folder 307.
“...it was felt that the majority of those using the library would be Japanese nonresident House members and foreign House residents.” The International House of Japan, Inc. Challenge, Response, Progress, 1952-1962. Tokyo, Japan: The International House of Japan, 1962, p. 51.


12 Madoko Kon, one of the early graduates of the Japan Library School. Interview with the author, February 19, 2008.


18 The RF provided a grant of $111,600 to the ALA in 1956 for the “maintenance of an office of overseas library development,” for a period of three years. Record of Board of Trustees, December 2nd & 3rd, 1958, RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.


20 RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599. Neither the cover letter nor the proposal entitled, “U.S. Field Seminar on Library Reference Services for Japanese Librarians,” has typewritten dates, but both have a date of January 2nd, 1958 stamped in red.

21 RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.

22 RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.


24 Shigeharu Matsumoto, Managing Director; John F. Howes, Executive Associate.


Record of the Trustees meeting in RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599. Quotations in this section are from this folder unless otherwise indicated.

David H. Clift, Executive Director, wrote to Everett T. Moore, President, ALA Reference Division, on January 13, 1959, informing him that “ALA received a grant in the amount of $40,450 from the Rockefeller Foundation to support a project entitled ‘U.S. Field Seminar in Reference Services for Japanese Librarians’ and that he would need to appoint an advisory committee to help guide the project.” ALA Archives 2/4/6, Box 23, Folder 23 ‘U.S. Field Seminar – Japanese 1959.’

Fukuda to Fahs, February 17, 1959. RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.


“Amerika Toshokan Kenkyu Chosadan no Gaiyo” in University of Tokyo CPAS Library, Takagi Collection, Cabinet 6-3, Folder 548 ‘Amerika Toshokan Kenkyu Shisatsudan.’


Agenda of April 12, 1959. Takagi Collection, Folder 548. In the invitation to Takagi dated on March 23, it is written that Dalton of ALA would attend the meeting.

Excerpt from Fahs Diary. RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.

Takagi Collection, Folder 548.


RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.

“Every Friday evening the field members met at the International House to discuss and study American libraries and their background.” Minutes of the Second Tokyo Session. RFA, RG 1.2, Series 200R, Box 271, Folder 2599.


USFS Report, p. 58.

Pages 57 to 100 of the USFS Report give proceedings of each seminar.

Amerika no Toshokan, pp. 69-92.

Amerika no Toshokan, p. 72.


