From There to Here: 1973-2013
Reflections on the Flourishing of the CALA Midwest Chapter

Selected Regional Projects:
The Midwest Chapter’s Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CALA/AMBS) was created in 2011 by then-Chair President Foohay Berdine.
The Midwest Chapter retail distribution listserver was first created by Peng Shuo, at Indiana University, South Bend, in 1998. Various members have contributed to the maintenance of the listserver since that time. Its current address is cala-midwesterns@listserv.indiana.edu with 150 subscribers.
The creation of the Midwest Chapter home page by Sherry Wex, was unanimously approved by the Board in the summer of 1996. Sherry also worked with Julie Su at the same time on the CALA E-Journal and the Chinese American Librarians Midwest Chapter Electronic Bulletin. At the CALA annual conference in 1996, Julie Su proposed that CALA take over the publication of the CALA E-Journal and that it become a refereed journal. The proposal was approved and is now produced by the Chinese American Librarians Association of the national level.

The Midwest Chinese Resources Guide (https://mira.lib.uiuc.edu/Research/Chinese/Content.html), replaced the 1992 Midwest Resources Guide, which was coordinated by Anna McClymonds, and the 1995 second edition coordinated by Pilling Wu. It is an Internet project of the Midwest Chapter of the Chinese American Librarians Association, which in 1993 was coordinated by Yvonne Doll, University of Kansas. Its purpose is to promote multilingual understanding of Chinese Americans and to provide ready access to the Chinese American communities in the Midwest.

There are three thriving local groups (Chicago area, Indiana, and Ohio State local) and various member volunteer-state contacts.

Midwest Chapter, Chinese American Librarians Association
華人圖書館員協會中西部部分會
http://midwest.chapters.cala-web.org/
Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, Wisconsin

The Midwest Chapter of the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA) was founded at the Rosary College Graduate School of Library Science on March 21, 1973 with 18 members. Organized by Dr. Tsz-chung Lee, the chapter’s early members included Lin Li-Chang, Roy Chang, Robert P. Chen, Marian Chou, Ming-ming Kuo, Julie Su, Bill Wang, Pei-hsi Wu, and Amanda Yu. In 1976, it was expanded to a national organization as CALA. One of the seven CALA Chapters in North America, the Midwest Chapter covers 13 states. Objectives of the Chapter include serving as a forum for discussion on issues related to professional development and other concerns of Chinese American librarians. It also promotes communication and cooperation in the community of Chinese American librarians nationally and internationally. Currently, we have 45 members.

Selected National Projects of Our Members:
The CALA Annual Ling Ling Award for the Best Research in All Media was set up in 2012 in commemoration of the late Ms. Liao Jing, our colleague from the Richter Library of Archives and Art of the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
The CALA Twenty-First Century Librarians Seminar Series is a project to promote collaboration of libraries and librarians in the U.S. and the U.S. The first Seminar, initiated and organized by Guoguang Li, Heng Pan Li, and Xudong Jin, was held in summer 2006 at Yunnan University. This successful seminar series is still ongoing.

Networking: Members, Friends, and Conferences
The CALA Annual Conference is held in Urbana, Illinois on May 31st.
The CALA 2001 Annual Conference at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
The 2004 Annual Conference at University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.
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