Early Medieval China Group

Annual Meeting

Chicago Sheraton – Mississippi

March 28, 2015

Attendees: Alan Berkowitz, Andrew Chittick, Hallet Chu, Al Dien, Andrew Eisenberg, John Felt, Ken Klein, Keith Knapp, Brian Lather, Su-tong Li, Scott Pearce, Marty Powers, Jonathan Skaff, Xiao-mei Tang, Katherine Tsiang, Matthew Wells, Dorothy Wong

President Keith Knapp called the meeting to order at 7:38 pm.

Keith spoke about the upcoming publication of Early Medieval Chinese Texts: a Bibliographical Guide, a project of this Group, the idea for which originated with Al Dien. He and Keith shared editorial responsibilities for the publication with Alan Berkowitz and Cynthia Chennault. The book will come out in two months’ time, at a modest cost of $40.

Treasurer’s Report

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<td>Opening balance</td>
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<td>Individual members</td>
<td>(v.16) 78</td>
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<td>(v. 19) 70</td>
<td>(v. 20) 71</td>
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Early Medieval China Editor’s Report. Matthew Wells reported, on behalf of Mike Farmer, that institutional subscriptions (online only) have increased to 119. Full text hits are going up, but table of contents and abstract hits are decreasing, indicating that more people are gaining access to the journal through such routes as Google Scholar.

The 20th anniversary issue on Shishuo Xinyu has been published. Maney Published allowed an overage in page limits, at no additional cost. Volume 21 has three articles in place, with two others under review, one of which might also be added to the issue. Matthew put out a call for book review submissions. Article submissions have been down and Mike asked for more quality manuscripts. Maney is trying to
promote *Early Medieval China* at more venues and are still pushing for an expansion to two issues per year.

Maney has said that some overlap with other publications would be okay, as long as we do not think we are stepping on other groups’ toes. Particular areas for which articles would be especially welcome would be in religion and art history. Andrew Chittick also suggested geography.

*Cambridge History of China, volume 2*. Progress is being made on the “early medieval” volume of the *Cambridge History*, with 30 rough draft chapters in place. Some pieces still need translation. A non-sinologist editor has been recruited, in order to make sure that the volume is free from specialist jargon and approachable by a wider audience. The volume will be limited to about sixty photos and maps total.

*China and beyond in the mediaeval period: cultural crossings and inter-regional connections*, co-authored by Dorothy Wong and Gustav Heldt, was recently published (2014).

**Early Medieval China conference suggested.** After attending a recent conference put on by the Early China group, Al Dien suggested that EMCG should plan a half-day Early Medieval China conference, perhaps in conjunction with an AAS meeting. It was pointed out that it would have to be held either prior to Thursday evening or after Sunday, so that it would not conflict with AAS panels. Andrew Chittick suggested it might be better to continue submitting panel proposals for AAS itself, as Early China panels seem to have disappeared as a consequence of their mounting their independent event. Matt Wells suggested another possibility would be to hold the meeting in conjunction with some other association meeting.

Andrew Chittick said that the Elling O. Eide Library has now opened as a stand-alone library specializing on Tang, pre-Tang and Central Asia. The library is a very posh facility overlooking Sarasota Bay, and is headed by Harold Mitchell and a librarian. The library is designed to accommodate conferences, so perhaps an Early Medieval China conference could be held there one day.

**EMCG Executive Board.** Keith said that two more members of the Executive Board need to cycle off. He will ask Scott and Cynthia to elect two more members as replacements. A new President will have to be elected, and a new Secretary recruited.

Keith adjourned the meeting at 8:20 pm, with a repetition of the call for article submissions.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Klein
Secretary-Treasurer