

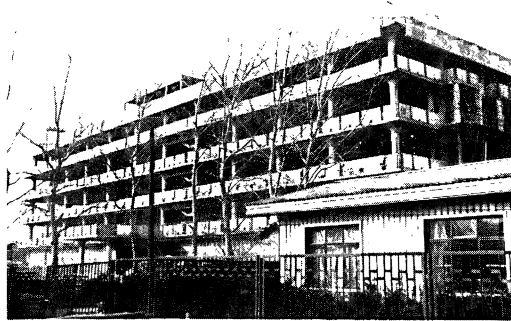
RMIT CHINA DELEGATION

At the invitation of the Institute of Scientific and Technical Information of China (ISTIC), a 3-member delegation from RMIT Department of Information Services toured China from January 6-26, 1986. Michael Ramsden, Anton Stavik and Barbara Arnold toured 4 cities in China, delivering lectures and conducting talks with information professionals on ways of developing co-operative initiatives between our countries. It was Anton Stavik's second visit, as he went on the LAA tour in 1983.

The tour stemmed from discussions held in Beijing in July 1984 between Lin Zixin, the then Director of ISTIC, and Dr W.J. McG. Tegtart, Secretary, Department of Science.

The project was strongly encouraged by Peter Judge, Officer-in-Charge, CILES, CSIRO, who has had extensive contacts with ISTIC.

Financial support for travel expenses was provided by the Australia-China Council and RMIT.



The new building for ISTIC due to open in 1987. Temporary online computer services building on right corner.

Members of the delegation gave lectures in Beijing to the students of the newly-established Graduate Diploma Course in Information Science at ISTIC and also in Wuhan, Nanjing and Shanghai under the auspices of the provincial institutes of scientific and technical information. Librarians and information professionals from a range of institutions in the respective provinces made up the audience and topics included:

PRECIS indexing system (M. Ramsden);

Library and information networks in Australia (A. Stavik);

User requirements studies (B. Arnold)

During two days of discussions at ISTIC in Beijing, chaired by Mr Liu Zhaodong, Deputy Director, ISTIC, a number of areas of co-operation were identified for consideration in the short and long terms. In particular, it was agreed that an exchange visit in 1987 for three members of ISTIC staff should be organised, if the financial support were forthcoming from Australian sources.



The delegation meets members of the staff of the Beijing University Department of Library Science. Mr Zhou Wenjun, director of the course, third from right.

Friendships were renewed with members of the delegation of Chinese librarians to Australia in November 1984, led by Mr Du Ke, Ministry of Culture. Mr Du hosted a banquet for the delegation at the Minorities Hotel, which was also attended by Mr Li Xunda of the Ministry of Culture and Mrs Li of the National Library of China.

Mr Qiu Keqin, Deputy Director, Nanjing Public Library, joined the host organisation in Nanjing at the welcoming banquet, lectures and other activities during the stay at Nanjing. Mr Shi Shi Kan, Director, International Exchange Section, Nanjing University Library, who had spent 2 years at the ANU Library and visited RMIT in 1984 welcomed the delegation, too, in Nanjing.

Mr Tan Xianjing, Deputy National Librarian, and his wife, who is a library educator, visited the delegation in Beijing. Mr Tan had been

entertained in Melbourne by members of the delegation, while on his way back to China after 2 years at the National Library of Australia.

The RMIT delegation was asked to send copies of the Department's course material to a number of departments of library and information science at the educational institutions visited, including Beijing University, Beijing Foreign Studies University, Wuhan University, Nanjing Institute of Technology, Nanjing University, Shanghai Institute of Scientific and Technical Information (ISTIS) and Jiaotong University (Shanghai).

Members of the delegation were approached by students and graduates for assistance in finding placement in Australian library schools, libraries and other institutions. Members of the delegation have been following up a number of those requests, as well as working on broader aspects of co-operation in the future.



Mr Liu, Director, Nanjing University Library, hosts a banquet at Nanjing University. Michael Ramsden and Anton Stavik sit on either side of him.

In the very full 3-week programme, the delegation visited 19 academic institutions, libraries and institutes of scientific and technical information, attended seven banquets and visited many of the outstanding historical sites in each city. The organisation of the visit was flawless, except for the vagaries of winter weather, which caused some delays in flights. The hospitality of the hosts was truly outstanding. It was indeed a memorable experience.

For further information about libraries and library schools in China write to members of the delegation at

Department of Information Services
RMIT
Box 2476V GPO
Melbourne 3001

The Search Is Over

Pergamon INFOLINE is pleased to announce another round of training courses for their online information retrieval service. There will be two courses, an Introductory Course for new users, and a course for Experienced users who need to review current developments on the system.

CANBERRA

Introductory — Monday 26 May
Experienced — Tuesday 27 May.

SYDNEY

Introductory — Thursday 29 May
Experienced — Friday 30 May.

DARWIN

System Seminar — Saturday 5 July.

Courses will run from 9.30am to 4.30pm with a break for lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided. Attendance will cost \$150 per day or \$200 if both courses are attended. Course venues will be announced once bookings have been received. For more information and bookings please contact:

PERGAMON
INFO
LINE

James Harker-Mortlock
Saztec Information
Retrieval Services P.L.
74 Glebe Point Road
Glebe NSW 2037
Tel: (008) 02 2563
Minerva Mailbox
HIR001 Tlx: 10715912

COST RECOVERIES SEMINAR

Special Libraries Section
Seminar on Cost Recoveries in
Libraries.

Date: 14 May 1986, 9am - 12 noon

Location: Unilever Aust. Ltd.
4th Floor Conference Room, 35 Pitt St
Sydney

Cost: \$25.00 cheques to be made
payable to: Special Libraries Section,
LAA.

Send cheque & registration form to:
ACI Information Services,
PO Box 1, Waterloo 2017

Contact: Nyree Swan (02) 250 1416

Registration

Name: _____

Company: _____

Phone: _____

No. attending: _____

Cheque enclosed: \$ _____ : _____