Title
The Digital Curation Project- Popularization of Democracy in Post-War Japan – virtual reunification of dispersed materials hidden in the Hussey Papers Archival collection

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This short paper introduces how the University of Michigan Library Online Exhibit *Popularization of Democracy in Post-War Japan* (University of Michigan Library, 2018) has evolved as a digital curation project, taking the "Linear and Goal-Oriented Approach" (Punzalan, 2014) in reconstructing dispersed materials into 'a small collection' within one archived collection, *The Alfred Rodman Hussey papers*.

The Alfred Rodman Hussey Papers (1945-1948) is the collection that Commander Hussey gathered during his work with the Government Section, Supreme Commander for the Allied Powers (SCAP), during the Allied occupation of Japan following the World War II, and later while he was in the Central Intelligence Agency. It contains 3,650 titled documents including: correspondence, memoranda, orders, reports, official and unofficial policy papers, drafts of legislation, other writings, slides, and audiotapes. Below we describe significant discoveries by the project.

One of the unique collections is a box of 16 color slides. The content tells the story of the birth of the New Constitution of Japan. Originally there were two boxes of slides, but the 'No.2 Box' only exits at University of Michigan Library. A project team was organized by the University of Michigan's Japanese Studies Librarian with a Gentō Media scholar, and a Japanese Studies graduate student. Three narration booklets "hidden" in the *Hussey Papers* were also found. The three pamphlets had been mentioned in *the Jigyō Hōkokusho* (Kenpō Fukyukai, 1947: 42-43). One of the pamphlets titled *Jinken Sengen* (32 episodes) by Hidezō Kondō was identified as the narration for 32 of the slides mentioned in the *Rōdō kyōiku tenrankai kankei shiryō* (Chuō Rōdō Gakuin, 1947: 20-1). The art style of Kondō found in his column in the Yomiuri Shinbun (Kondō, 1940) also matched the one used in the slides. The scholar determined that the narration with the slides was the one that had won the Promoting Constitution Contest held by the Constitution Popularization Society (Kenpō Fukyukai, 1947: 43). To secure semi-permanent preservation the slides were digitized and displayed as *Alfred Hussey Collection: Japan's Constitution Slides* in the library's Digital Collections and preserved in the Hydra/Fedora library repository system.

A graduate student and librarian worked on curating 'a digital small collection' for the library's Online Exhibit's Omeka Platform by reunifying the dispersed slides and the narration text in the *Hussey Papers*. It also includes as added value historical background, translated texts and links to related open access data held in various repositories such as the United Nation Treaty Collection, the National Archives of Japan, and the National Diet Library, and other institutions.

The original Online Exhibit was debuted at the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialist Annual Meeting and at Doshisha University (Yokota-Carter, 2018) in 2017 and at the Council of East Asia Libraries Annual Meeting in 2018. In collaboration with the Digital Design Team at the University of Michigan Library, we are now in the process of improving the interface design to increase the usability for diverse users, including the visually impaired, researchers and educators, as well as in general public.

Beagrie and Punzalan provided the theoretical framework for this digital curation project. Beagrie defines digital curation as including preservation, maintenance, management, and the future use of the digital data as well as "the capacity to add value to data to generate a new source of information and knowledge" (Beagrie, 2004: 7). This definition of "digital curation" corresponds with the Punzalan's concept of 'virtual reunification' as a strategy to gather together dispersed archival materials "to a single origin or common provenance." (Punzalan, 2014).

Museums, libraries, and public/private institutions have been producing a massive amount of data by digitizing analog resources while 'born-digital' resources have emerged in volumes. This data has become a part of libraries and museums collections. Libraries have started the online exhibitions around themes by using

digitized texts and images that are dispersed in various open access data archives, scattered among different institutions around the world, through web links. Digital curation has become a part of a library's broader collection development. As data is collected, reused and transformed for education and research, new knowledge emerges. Data as a collection provides materials for digital scholarship.

Another important idea addressed by this project is the concept of "virtual repatriation," a controversial topic among the libraries, archives, museums (LAM) community (Punzalan, 2014). The above mentioned slide set and narration text were brought to the United States from Japan as a result of the postwar occupation of Japan. We ask the question, "Can this project be considered a 'virtual repatriation' to the Japanese community, who originally produced these materials in their effort to promote the new Japanese Constitution?" Yokota-Carter's past presentations at meetings of the European Association of Japanese Resource Specialist and Council of East Asia Libraries on this digital curation project has given librarians in North America and Europe a model for planning new virtual reunification projects of Japan's World War II and postwar documents that are physically scattered around the world.

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