PRRLA 2023 Shenzhen Meeting Presentation Proposal

* **Title:**

**Discovering an Oceanic Family Network from PRRLA Libraries**

* **Proposed by:**

**Jing Liu**

Chinese Studies Librarian, Asian Library

University of British Columbia

* **Abstract:**

A recent research project on pioneer Chinese families in Pacific Northwest (1865-1967) has benefited tremendously from PRRLA libraries. The four generations of Pacific crossing left some traces deep in archives and special collections in PRRLA research libraries and beyond. This research has mobilized unique materials, which are not that easy to access, and some are still hidden. These primary sources in various languages, scattered around the Pacific Rim will be treasured by other researchers. Documenting the process of discovering them is to be important for future scholars and students, as well as for PRRLA colleagues.

Base on evaluating over 1,000 footnote citations and the policy for image reproduction, privacy, acknowledgement, etc., this presentation will use the encountered questions and results as examples to explore why the wealth of primary resources are hidden after large-scaled digitization and open access activities in recent decade, then explore strategic opportunities of extending engagement and use of scholarly content across archives and special collections. Examples from University of British Columbia Libraries will be given on community outreach and collaborative efforts on Chinese Canadians’ archive and special collections. The presenter wishes to gather comments and suggestions for a more in-depth study.

* **Biographic Notes:**

Jing Liu is a graduate from Wuhan University, Jing received her M.L.S. from University of Washington and Master in Asia Pacific Policy Studies from UBC. She has experienced librarianship from different types of libraries in Beijing, New York, Chicago, Seattle, and British Columbia of Canada. She has received travel and research grants, and published books, book chapters, conference, and journal papers. During her leave time from UBC, she wrote special columns on new immigrants for Chinese newspapers, conducted oral history interviews with Chinese Studies scholars, and just completed a 300-page manuscript on pioneer Chinese immigrants to the Pacific Northwest. She also took a part in the Series of true Chinese immigrants’ stories by Fair Child TV in Vancouver BC. She was a guest lecturer for Chinese and Japanese institutions, and she led international collaborative projects.

* **This presentation is related to all sub-themes, and more focused on No. 2 and No.5.**
* **I will be happy to deliver the presentation in-person and I do not mind being recorded.**