FOSTERING CROSS-CULTURAL COLLABORATION:

Insights from the Can Tho University and University of Southern California Workshops

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Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance 2025 Annual Meeting

Ho Chi Minh City

Can Tho, Vietnam

Can Tho University

PRRLA

Project Overview

2023 PRRLA Karl Lo Award
- Week-long in-person workshops
- Guest lecture
- Knowledge sharing
- Project website
- Virtual workshops

Learning and Sharing: Global Engagement and Outreach

Information Technology Workshop, Can Tho University

Project Description

With generous funding from the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance, the Learning and Sharing project aims to enhance the connection and collaboration between library professionals in the United States and Vietnam through various initiatives including workshops, visit and exchange programs, and research collaboration. The project comprises the following interconnected components:

1. Conduct a week-long workshop for library and IT professionals and students from the Mekong Delta region at the Learning Resource Center, Can Tho University in March 2024.
2. Engage in meetings and discussions to gain insights into the latest developments and trends in librarianship and library education in both countries among library administrators, faculty members, and practitioners.
3. Explore the opportunity for Vietnamese academic libraries to join PRRLA by introducing the Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance, its operations, and its collections to Vietnamese library colleagues.
4. Identify Vietnamese content in Pacific Rim Library Digital Collections.
5. Collaborate in research projects.
6. Explore new ideas and future collaboration opportunities.

Through these activities, library professionals from both countries can share expertise, exchange innovative practices, explore new ideas, foster mutual understanding, establish connections, and lay the foundation for future collaborations.

USC Libraries   PRRLA PACIFIC RIM RESEARCH LIBRARIES ALLIANCE

Last update:
Tuesday October 7, 2025

Project Goals

- Promote knowledge exchange

- Cultivate partnerships

- Expand resource access

- Foster innovation

- Build sustainable relationship

Workshop topics

- Digitizing cultural heritage collections

- Managing digital library

- Emerging technologies

- Generative AI

- Developing interactive online tutorials

- Library web applications

- Library education in the United States

Workshop Description

The workshop comprises six modules covering the following topics on managing library technologies and library education:

1. Digitizing cultural heritage collections and managing digital library
   - Preserving and curating cultural heritage collections through digitization.
   - Best practices for managing digital library collections.
   - Discovering Vietnamese content in Pacific Rim Library Alliance Digital Collections.
2. Emerging Technologies
   - Managing library and information technology.
   - Introduction to artificial intelligence and machine learning.
   - Applications and use cases of artificial intelligence in library and higher education.
3. Developing interactive online tutorials
   - Instructional design model – ADDIE
   - Interactive and modular design
   - Digital Accessibility
   - Introduction to online interactive systems and tools
4. Web Applications used by Libraries in the United States
   - Patron's Experience for Discovery
   - Interconnected Applications for e-resource access and services
   - Applications for references and instruction
   - Application for Archives and Digital Library
   - Integrating social media into library services
5. Library Education in the United States
   Evolvement of library education in U.S.
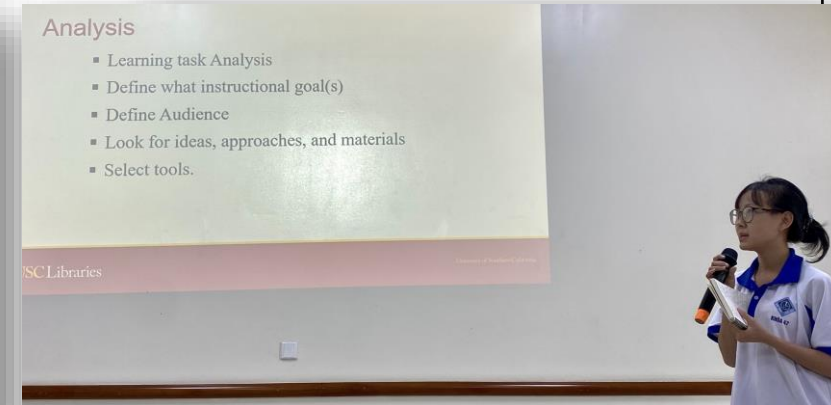   - Accreditation of library education

Presentation

Workshops

Lessons Learned

- Building Intercultural Competence
  - Understanding cultural norms
  - Clear communication
  - Flexibility and adaptability
- Working with Facilitators
- Active Learning in Cross-Cultural Settings
  - Interactive Tools
  - Group Activities
  - Localized Examples
- Technology and Open Resources

Sustainable Partnership

Online Workshop

- Academic integrity: Policy and pedagogy for librarians and academic libraries (May 31, 2024)
- Library marketing in the digital age (October 14, 2024)
- New library services and programs in a digital age (September 15, 2025)
- AI applications in library (December 2025)

Research and Publishing

- Shih, W., & Trang, H.T. (2025). Fostering Cross-Cultural Collaboration: Lessons from Vietnam and the U.S. *International Lead*, 39 (1), 10-12.
- Trang, H.T. (2025). Honoring Patricia Gail Oyler: A lifelong mentor to the Vietnamese Libraries. *International Lead*, 39 (3), 18-20.

Conference presentations at the Charleston Conference Asia 2026

2026 Fulbright US Scholar

Online Workshops

Future Collaboration

- Regional digital library network
  - Cultural heritage materials preservation & access

- Virtual collaboration
  - Online workshops
  - Virtual staff exchange programs
  - Research collaborations
  - Curriculum development & sharing

- Expanding the network

PRRLA 2025 Annual Meeting

October 30, 2025

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Acknowledgments

- Pacific Rim Research Libraries Alliance

- Can Tho University

- USC Libraries

- Workshop participants

Thank You

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