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Some Aspects of Library Technology Infrastructure in Japan

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From Osaka University

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Today's overview

“Introduction of Osaka University Library’s Case”

1. Quick self introduction
2. How to create user records
3. How to renew library integrated system
4. Invitation to Osaka University

1. Quick self introduction

- ◆ First Japanese visiting librarian
- ◆ Shortest period of staying
- ◆ Current job at Osaka University
 - I am in charge of systems & networks of library.
 - Position (since July 2005) : Specialist / Chief, Electronic Library Section, Infrastructure Division, Department of Information and Communication Technology Services,

*I believe this department is like CSSD in Pitt.

2. How to create user records

◆ University computer account

- **PID** = Osaka University Personal ID (Jan. 2007-)

e.g.) u123456a

Notified to users. Used when login

“u”= fixed

“123456”=six digit number, random

“a”=a-z, random

- **SID** = System ID e.g.) “s1234567”

Not notified to users. Users do NOT know that they have SID. Used for authentication behind the scene.



Points of User Records

- Creating them effectively / quickly
- Working in partnership with other system/service
 - We need “item” for above in Library Integrated System.

[may be skipped]



Osaka University Personal ID is used to authenticate for:

- University Portal
- Computers
- Student Information System (students)
- Course Web (students)
- Library “My account”
- University wireless network
- Some other services

*No university e-mail system

E.g.) kuboyama@library.osaka-u.ac.jp



◆ Types of University Personal ID

- Roughly no types, I believe.
(Of course, they are identified by position etc.)
- Guest ID for computers
only one day; given at desk;
on the next day administrator changes
password; very small number of use
- My colleague are planning “Guest use” for
our wireless network now.

◆ University ID Card (1)

(Students)

- Have student card
- Used for

Library circulation & gate (we have gates)

Kiosk for printing some certificate

(Faculty/staff)

- Issued sometimes at each department.
- They have to apply for “library card”.
 - * They do not need to apply for using “My Account”.

◆ University ID Card (2)

(Visiting scholar)

- Issued sometimes at each department.
- They have to apply for using “PID”.
- They have to apply for “library card”.
- They have to apply for using “My Account”.

#We considered a plan to issue University ID Card with IC chip (until 2007?). Now, I can't see activity for it currently.

◆ Create/update User Records at Library systems

【Features】

- Created/updated from Student Information System (students) and Payroll System (faculty / staff)
- “SID” is brought from Authentication System through systems above.

→ Chart A and B



What PID/SID are for?

- More secure
- Single Sign On (SSO)
- (For library) No need to manage/operate password.
- (For library) No annoying for students who forget password.

* then less convenient!?

[may be skipped]

3. How to renew library integrated system

◆(Note) I will talk about Osaka University Library's case.

- This must be mostly common at National University Libraries in Japan.
- But, NOT common at Private University Libraries. Some of them might be similar to Pitt's case. Someone said "I am always wondering why National U. Libraries do like that."

◆ How to renew Library Integrated System (1)

- Replace whole servers and software at same time
- Every 5 years
- Lease or rental (not “buy”)
- No up-grade for servers (if necessary, we may do)
- Client devices (computers, printers etc.) are sometimes included in the same contract.



How to renew Library Integrated System (2)

- Our mile stone

2.2001. replaced systems (5 years contract)

2.2006. - 3.2007. (1 year expansion)

*To purchase it with systems of
Computing Center

3.2007. - Current systems (5 years
contract)

→ Chart C

◆ How to renew Library Integrated System (3)

WHY? Because, we have been doing so???

I suppose,

- (Before national university incorporation in 2004) items of expense was too strict.

“Rental fee for computing” must have been used for it.

- Some libraries might want to cover “client devices” by it to save future expense.

(continuing...)



How to renew Library Integrated System (4)

WHY? (continuing)

- The length of contract was guidance by the Ministry of Education, I believe.
- Anyway, these mean we are still not flexible???

◆ How to renew Library Integrated System (5)

: independent purchase or purchase together
(with systems of Computing Center)

(1) Some libraries do independent purchase.

Some do another way.

(2) Why Osaka U. took “purchase together”?

- For cutting down cost
- Putting servers at same room (security, air-conditioner,)
- Same platform → cut down cost for management
(not successful, I think)

Too much things to tell...

(Appendix)

Other different things on librarians

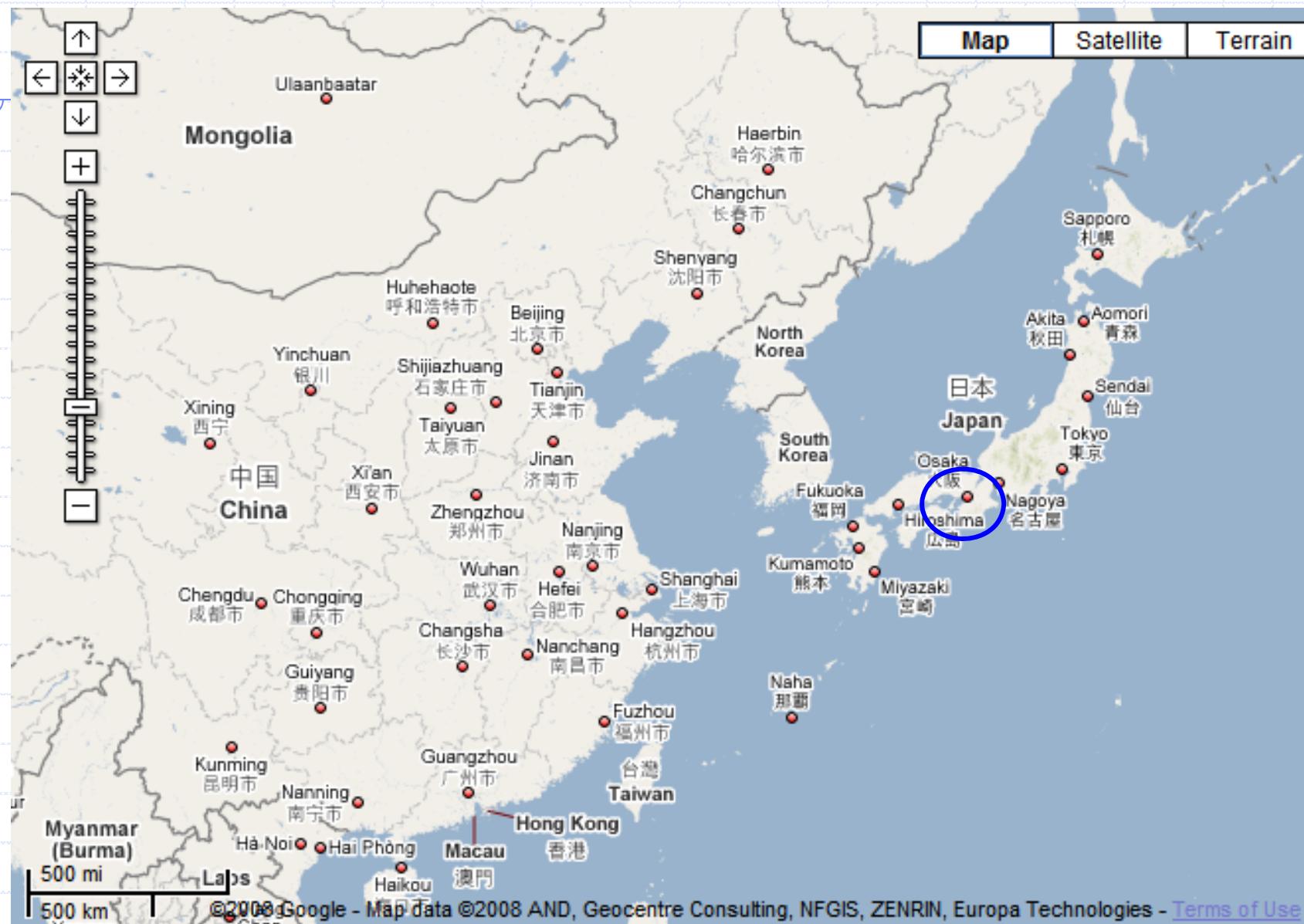
In Japan,

(1) University librarian are usually transferred from one to another.

E.g.) Working for catalog after circulation is far from surprising, no one never feels something strange. We have to be "general" and flexible!?

(2) Most university librarian do not have a degree of LIS. But almost all of us have a qualification for librarian. MLIS? very rare, unfortunately.

4. Invitation to Osaka University



◆ Convenient location

(1) From Kansai/Osaka A.P.

- take a bus to Itami/Osaka A.P. (1.5 hour)
- take a train (7 min.) + walk (10 min.)

(2) From Narita/Tokyo A.P.

- take a flight to Itami/Osaka A.P. (1.2 hour)
- take a train (7 min.) + walk (10 min.)

◆ You might be able to take

- 24 hours stop-over on your way to Asian countries

5. Thank you very much for having me here!!!

- I really appreciate you have had me a visiting librarian at ULS.
- Very informative for me
- I am lucky to meet you!
- I hope we can keep in touch.

6. If you have questions,

- (1) Please ask here.
- (2) Please ask tomorrow during a party.

11:45am – 1:15pm, HL272

- (3) Please write an invitation letter for me to
Director of Osaka University Library.