

Robert B. Crawford (1926–87)

Robert B. Crawford, professor of history and Asian studies at the University of Illinois, died of a heart attack on July 4, 1987, in Taipei.

After military service in postwar Japan, Crawford did undergraduate work at Gonzaga University and graduate study at the University of Washington, where he studied with Hellmut Wilhelm and Hsiao Kung-ch'uan. His dissertation, completed in 1961, was on the Ming grand secretary Chang Chü-cheng and his political thought. Institutional history and political philosophy were Crawford's main intellectual interests, leading to articles in *The Journal of Asian Studies*, *T'oung Pao*, *Monumenta Serica*, *Chinese Culture*, and elsewhere on topics ranging from Han political thought to Ming eunuchs.

Crawford's greatest professional accomplishment was the development of East Asian studies at the University of Illinois. He came to Illinois in 1960, which then had only one other scholar with expertise in East Asia. He helped establish the Center for Asian Studies and served as its director from 1967 to 1976. With his leadership, Illinois established an Asian library and greatly expanded the size of its faculty in East Asian fields.

Crawford served as president of the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs 1975–76. He was also a National Endowment for the Humanities regional lecturer in 1974 and a member of the N.E.H. National Board of Consultants, providing assistance to six colleges in developing international programs.

After directing the Center for Asian Studies at Illinois, Crawford served as the director of the School of Social Sciences for six years and as acting director of International Programs and Studies for two. Only during his final two years was he able to return to full-time teaching and research.

Contributions in Crawford's memory may be sent to the University of Illinois Foundation, History Department Graduate Fellowship Fund, 1401 West Green, Urbana, Illinois 61801.

PATRICIA EBREY

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Elizabeth Huff (1912–87)

Dr. Elizabeth Huff, the first Head of the East Asiatic Library and Lecturer in Oriental Languages at the University of California at Berkeley from 1947 to 1968, died in Berkeley on September 19, 1987.

After graduating in English from the University of Illinois in 1932, she pursued studies in classical art history and then Chinese art, receiving her master's degree from Mills College in 1935. Following three years at Harvard studying Chinese and Japanese, she went on a Harvard-Yenching Fellowship to Kyoto for a year and then to Peking for textual studies. The outbreak of war between the United States and Japan turned the projected two years in China into nearly six years, almost half of which was spent in the Wei-hsien internment camp.

Upon completing her doctorate in Chinese literature at Harvard (Radcliffe) in 1947, Elizabeth Huff began to reorganize the 77,000 Chinese and Japanese books

at Berkeley into a branch library. Her greatest coup was the purchase in 1950 of 100,000 items from the library of the Mitsui family in Tokyo. In addition to modern Japanese books, the purchase included the Asami collection of 4,300 woodblock-printed Korean volumes or fascicles, the Imazeki library of classical Chinese in 20,000 volumes, 1,282 Chinese rubbings, 8,000 Japanese manuscripts, 18,000 volumes of Japanese woodblock-printed books and 2,300 Edo- and Meiji-period maps. In 1949 she also acquired the 10,000-volume Murakami collection of Japanese belles lettres, mostly first editions, dating from 1868 to the 1920s. Within four years, the library included over 225,000 volumes and had achieved its position as the second largest collection of East Asian books among American university libraries. In 1968 she retired early to resume her long-interrupted career of scholarship.

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