BUILDING A DIGITAL LIBRARY DATABASE
TOWARDS THE PRESERVATION AND
POPULARIZATION OF HÁN-NÔM HOLDINGS
IN THE VIETNAM LIBRARY OF SOCIAL SCIENCES

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May 9, 2015
*Elements in the foundations of Nôm Studies*
The Library of Social Sciences built a database for 2,055 books in its EFEO Nôm archive. All 2,055 books now have library catalog cards in Dublin Core, 15 fields including information on languages and scripts: Nôm, English and Romanized Vietnamese. This Nôm database has 244 books fully digitized, and the rest having only 3-15 pages with key library information digitized.
The Project

- 2,055 books were chosen from a stash of unregistered Hán Nôm archives (Sách Hán Nôm năm ngoài đăng ký) untouched since their acquisition.
- This collection is online both at the British Library & Center for Vietnamese Philosophy, Culture & Society, http://vietcenter.temple.edu/issi.
The project continues

- The project may continue to digitize in full the rest of 1,811 books of the collection in the future.
- The Library will continue to study and digitize the entire Nôm resources including Nôm books in microfilm.
- Training on digitization for all of its librarians and archivists.
- Converting library database classification from MARC to Dublin Core.
Project work

**With Dublin Core**

First step after check-out: Reading, counting pages, measuring sizes,...
Inserting basic book information in Dublin Core, presentable in the internet...

Using multilingual Unicode and in Dublin Core under the Open Archive Initiative OAI/ORE
Digitize Nôm books

Using 2 cameras pointing at 2 opposite pages without unbinding the books...
Sorting camera RAW photos into book page order with paging.php function

### RAW Image Description

**Check sum:** 383,346,756 bytes.

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Embedding metadata in each picture using Photoshop Lightroom
Digital image processing with Lightroom
Products digitized for 1 book:

✓ Original digital RAW image from the camera

✓ Digital uncompressed TIFF 300ppi and full JPEG 300ppi with Lightroom

✓ Digital web images using function “webresize.php”

✓ Digital photo thumbs using “webthumbs.php”.

✓ A open database
Digital photo web

ISSI Digital Working Group’s Corner: Login from IP 117.6.87.141—Unauthorized access from 117.6.87.141
Contact nhan@temple.edu for access
- Temple University - College of Liberal Arts - Center for Vietnamese Philosophy, Culture & Society

NÔM STUDIES
A BL EAP219 survey of Vietnamese Nôm archives at the Vietnam Institute of Social Sciences Information — the EFEO Collection

Nôm resource viewer
- List of HN collection
- Search: ○ Title ○ Creator ○ Subject ○ Identifier
Collection: HN: Hán Nôm at Page Search

HN catalog cards are currently reviewed and upgraded by Phùng Thị Bình and Ngồ Thanh Nhàn, 2014

Viewing HN/0517 [Total 208 pages] ➤ Turn page from right to left

ISSI HN00000517.

issuer_HN_0517_Item Description
issuer_HN_0517_File/Container Description
issuer_HN_0517_RAW Listing

ISSI HN00000517.

Ngữ soạn y tổng kim giám

1. Title/Tên
   - Quốc ngữ
   - English

2. Creator/Tác giả:
   - Quốc ngữ
   - English

3. Subject/Chủ đề:
   - Quốc ngữ
   - English

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Royal compiled Gold standard of Medicine

issuer_HN_0517_Item Title:吳臻等編著
Issuer_HN_0517_Item Notes: Ngồ Khiêm dâng biên soan

Issuer_HN_0517_Item Title: Yi học
Issuer_HN_0517_Item Notes: Y học

Issuer_HN_0517_Item Title: Medicine
Issuer_HN_0517_Item Notes: Medicine
Book listing Hán Nôm books in hard copy for readers...
Book listing of only those fully digitized
Returning check out Hán Nôm books now are each covered with Mylar on shelf
The ISSI decided to formalize a digital center in the Department of Bibliographic Database as an result of the project. Today, the digital work is the major part of the Department.
Mission of digital center

- Research on digitization
- Digitize documents
- Preserving and storing digital document
- Training
The first public digital training course by the ISSI Digital Center, Hanoi, April 2015
Documents in ISSI

Documents from École Française d’Extrême Orient (EFEO).
Documents from National Science Library
Documents from Library of Social Sciences
Handwritten Village Customs

Royal appointments (in rolls)
Books in latin  
Stories and royal appointments of local gods
Japanese Books

Chinese Books
The original digital team at ISSI, 2009.
THANK YOU!