Report on the Monash University Library at the Conference 'Reimagining Korean Identity through Wars, Money, Ideas and Exchanges: 70 years' Identity Transformation', 17-18 August 2018

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On the 17th of August, Monash University’s Sir Louis Matheson Library hosted day one of the ‘Reimagining Korean Identity’ Conference. In conjunction with the Monash University Korean Studies Research Hub, Deakin University, and Melbourne University, the Sir Matheson Library arranged and organised the conference. Sarah Jansen (Matheson Library Manager), Anita Dewi (R&L Coordinator), Hueimin Chen, Marlon Manguilin, members of the Information & Lending Services team, members of the Collections & Facilities team, and I were involved in the process, including set-up and pack-up, and showcasing the library and the Korean Collection through an image presentation on the day. Heidi Binghay and the Communications team also organised the Korean Identity poster at the Asian Collections display case.

Jung-Sim Kim, Korean Studies Librarian, and I also displayed books on the ‘Korean Identity’ topic in the conference room to generate discussion on further aspects of the theme, and promote the Library’s extensive Korean Studies collection, in both English and Korean. This allowed for networking with the academics and students in attendance that focused on the library’s role in Korean Studies at Monash University, especially as the Korean collection and dedicated Subject Librarian make Monash University a vanguard in the field.

The conference was well attended with guests and presenters from Monash University, other Victorian and Australian universities, and universities overseas, including New Zealand, South Korea, and the United States. Presentations focused on the study of Korean Identity through various means, including interpretation through film and place.