Adapting Familiar Standards for the Unfamiliar:

Digitizing Foreign Language and Cultural Collections

The Sokiku (Kikuyo) Nakatani Collection
**CSU Japanese American Digitization Project:**
A Collaborative Digital Project of the CSU Libraries

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Sokiku Nakatani (1903-1990)

• Donation of diaries and correspondence in 2005

• Incarcerated in Minidoka and Tule Lake

• Pro-Japan

• Differing narrative about WWII incarceration
Workflow Challenge: Language

- OmniPage Ultimate OCR Software
- Quality Control
- Antiquated
## Workflow Challenge: Metadata

### Gregorian Calendar vs. Japanese Imperial Calendar (1965 = Showa 40)

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Workflow Challenge: Digitizing
Challenge: Ethical Dilemma

- Collection Restricted
- Association with the Japanese American Archival Collection
- Controlled Vocabulary
Lessons Learned

• Consult with member(s) of community
  • Read right to left and (sometimes bottom to top)
  • Translations
  • Quality Control

• Understand cultural differences and history
  • Some American Indian tribes believe photographs steal their souls
  • Cambodian flag

• SAA Core Values and Code of Ethics
Julie Thomas
Instruction and Electronic Record Archivist
Sacramento State University