

### Memorial Resolution Honoring Betty Lee Sung

Whereas the American Library Association (ALA) lost a valued colleague on January 19, 2023, with the death of Dr. Betty Lee Sung;

Whereas Sung was born in 1924 in Maryland; she received a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Illinois in 1948; a Master of Library Science from Queens College of the City University of New York (CUNY); and a PhD from the Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York; Sung received many awards including an honorary doctorate, Doctor of Letters, from State University of New York Old Westbury;

Whereas Sung started her career working at the Library of Congress translating Chinese maps for the Army during World War II; at the Library of Congress, she advocated for the creation of an Asian American collection; Sung also worked at the Queens Borough Public Library while attending Queens College for her Master of Library Science degree;

Whereas Sung was Professor Emerita of the City College of New York/CUNY; Sung was a co-founder and former board chair of the Asian American / Asian Research Institute (AAARI) - the City University of New York; at City College, Sung developed and taught the first course and program in Asian American Studies Sung collaborated with faculty and students of color advocating for ethnic studies program; Sung served as Chair of the Department of Asian Studies at the City College of New York from 1970 to 1992;

Whereas Sung was a leading authority on Chinese in America; she presented and published numerous books and articles on Asian American history; some of her noteworthy publications include *Mountain of Gold: The Story of the Chinese in America* (1967), *The Chinese in America* (1973), and *Chinese American Intermarriage* (1990);

Whereas Sung completed a database of the Chinese immigration records in the New York Region National Archives in 1994; this database received funding from Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities; scholars and researchers used the database to conduct genealogical and biographical studies focusing on the early history of Chinese immigrants in New York;

Whereas Sung was active in many professional organizations such as the Asian American Higher Education Council, the American Library Association, the Association for Asian American Studies, among others; in 2017, Sung received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Association for Asian American Studies; Sung was an extraordinary scholar, friend, colleague, and mentor to many; now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the American Library Association (ALA), on behalf of its members:

1. recognizes the significant contributions and accomplishments of Betty Lee Sung over the course of her career and mourns her death; and
2. extends its sincerest condolences to her friends and family.

Mover: Raymond Pun, ALA Councilor at Large

Seconder: Tarida Anantachai, ALA Councilor at Large

Version: Jan 2, 2023 – 12:00 pm