Dear Friends and Colleagues,

Unfortunately, we begin this new academic year with some austerity plans in place. As many of you know, last winter an economic crisis—totally of man-made proportions—hit the University and forced us all to realize that “bad times” were in store for our continuing programs and future academic plans. We are hopeful that “good times” are in the offing longer-term, but the rhetoric of “happy days will be here again” is still hard to take seriously. That said, however, we are fortunate that the last several months have seen an improvement in the University’s investments, and thus the dire March prognostications for the next ten years at Princeton have turned out to be overblown. Overblown, perhaps, but no one is ready to breathe easily. The same economic planning mavens who got us into spending beyond our means are also in charge of inventing a “new normal” by which Nassau Hall now calls the shots centrally and tells us what we can spend and what we can’t. When David Howell, Chair of the EAS Department, and I met with President Tilghman last spring, we were reassured when she told us that in the end the future of the East Asian Studies Department and Program at Princeton should be in the hands of our faculty and not our administrators. We hope that day will return soon enough.

We shouldn’t dwell on the dark side of all this. The bright side is that the EAS Department and Program have together contributed mightily in helping the University overcome its large financial shortfall after the “crash” last year. At the same time however, by working closely with the Provost’s Office, we have been able to preserve our core EAS programs and financial commitments to undergraduate and graduate education, foreign language teaching, supporting acquisitions and positions in the East Asian Library, and providing faculty research support. We will need to cut back on our ambitious outside speakers’ program, look more carefully at all requests for EAS Program support, and eliminate our fall and winter lunar New Year receptions for a while. Our Program Committee will also begin to review our ongoing programs this fall to see whether there are other ways to improve our academic mission at the University. Should any of you have ideas or suggestions, we would welcome them.

Despite these dark clouds, building a positive atmosphere for our ongoing and new graduate students will remain a priority for both EAS and the Graduate School. There will be no cuts in graduate stipends or summer support, and we will continue to be able to support all worthy requests for final-year Dissertation Writing Fellowships and DCE tuition waivers. We will continue to work with PIIRS to maximize our resources for graduate student research in the EAS aspects of the Humanities and Social Sciences. We welcome our new EAS graduate students (see the information about them inside the newsletter) in their respective Departments and hope they will stop by the EAS Program Office in 219 Frist to say hello. We also welcome all ongoing and new undergraduates to stop by and learn more about the language and course requirements for our EAS Certificates for students majoring in outside Departments such as Politics, Economics, Sociology, or at the Woodrow Wilson School. We can also continue to provide seniors with research support for their Senior Thesis or Project as long as a significant component deals with East Asian issues.

We look forward to a challenging year, and we expect that our activities within EAS and those of the WWS’s “China and the World Program” under Tom Christensen will continue to have a considerable impact campus-wide. We are especially excited by the prospect of welcoming Professors Dieter Kuhn (see inside) and Ge Zhaoguang to Princeton next spring. Professor Ge will come as one of the first “Princeton Global Scholars” sponsored by the Council on International Teaching and Research. Professor Ge is the Founding Director of the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai. He specializes in medieval Chinese Chan (Zen) Buddhism and Daoism, and he also commands attention for his comparative studies of pre-modern China, Japan, and Korea. He will be in residence in the East Asian Studies Department beginning in spring 2010 and will come to Princeton for at least six weeks annually over the next three years. His presence will also enhance our increased faculty and graduate student contacts with their counterparts at Fudan. I myself have spent the last two summers in Shanghai helping to promote a long-term relationship between Princeton and Fudan that will benefit both sides at all levels of interaction.

Finally, I want to welcome back our distinguished faculty in East Asian Studies, especially those who were on sabbatical leave last year, including but not only Janet Chen, Atsuko Ueda, Joy Kim, Willard Peterson, among others. Several EAS graduate students spent time last year in China, Korea, and Japan and will return to Princeton this year. We also wish Megan Santusso well in her new position as she moves on from Princeton. As our Program Coordinator, she contributed greatly to all aspects of the Program office’s work, including preparing the annual newsletter that you are now reading. We will all miss her. We are pleased to welcome Beate Witzer as the new Program Coordinator. She brings her experience at PIIRS and the Humanities Council to our EAP office.

With best wishes,

Ben Elman,
Director of EAP and Professor of East Asian Studies and History
Faculty News

Congratulations to Amy Borovoy who has been promoted to associate professor as of July 2009. Amy joined the East Asian Studies Department in the spring of 1999 as a lecturer and was later promoted to assistant professor in the Fall of 2000.

Congratulations also to Christina L. Davis who was promoted to Associate Professor of Politics and International Affairs effective this year. She is an associated professor in the East Asian Studies Department focusing on comparative and Japanese politics.

Both Amy and Christina have accepted invitations to join the Program Committee for East Asian Studies.

Department Chair and Professor of East Asian Studies and History, David Howell, has been named Nissan Professor in Japanese Studies.

New Faculty

Everett Zhang (on leave Fall 2009): I received my Ph.D. in cultural anthropology at UC Berkeley and did two years of post-doctoral studies at Harvard Medical School. I worked as an executive editor of an academic journal and a researcher in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences before I came to the U.S. to pursue my Ph.D. As I grew up in Maoist China and experienced the first years of post-Mao reform, my academic studies have always brought into focus the concerns about where contemporary China is heading. My book manuscript, entitled “Impotence in China: An Illness of Chinese Modernity” examines the changes from Maoist socialism to post-Mao Chinese society, seen through the changes in the body, sexuality and medicine. My current project examines another important change over the past three decades of reform—the change in grieving, trauma and the governance of life. If my previous project is about “the body,” my current project deals with “life.” Because the complexities of the change in post-Mao and post-Deng China have frustrated many established theories about how a society changes, we are facing the challenge of understanding the changing Chinese society. I try to base conceptualization of “contemporary China” on how the body is used and how life is governed. While coming from its recent past—Maoist China, “contemporary China” in its thirty years of reform is quickly becoming history. It is fitting to say that, compelled by the present urge to examine the past, studies of contemporary China are a history of the present.

Visiting Faculty

Dieter Kuhn (Teaching Spring 2010) is joining the East Asian Department as Visiting Professor. He is a full professor of sinology and holds the chair of sinology at Würzburg University (Germany). Before taking up his sinological studies, he was trained as textile merchant and graduated in textile business management. At the universities of Cologne and Bonn he studied sinology as his major, East Asian and European art history, japaonology and Manchu studies as minors. He received his Dr. phil. in 1977 at the University of Cologne with a dissertation on the Ziren yizhi, the earliest treatise on loom building from 1264. Afterwards he was invited by Joseph Needham to join him in his East Asian History of Science Library (now Needham Research Institute) at Cambridge for several years, before he continued his career at the University of Heidelberg. In 1985 he was habilitated in sinology at the Free University Berlin. Aside from his various teaching and research positions before being appointed full professor in 1988, he was a Heisenberg research fellow, a research fellow of the Max Planck Institute, and a visiting fellow at the Institute of the History of Science and Technology of the Academia Sinica, Peking. Aside from his interest in 20th century Chinese history of Republican China, his research focuses on the history of material culture, technology, art and archaeology in medieval China, especially of the Song (960-1279) and the Tang (6018-907) periods. His research during the past decades are articles in journals and exhibition catalogues and reviews well mirrored in 26 monographs and books edited. Among them are his volume (5:9) on Textile Technology in Joseph Needham’s Science and Civilization in China (1988), his two volumes on The Presence of Antiquity (2001) and Perceptions of Antiquity in Chinese Civilization (2008), and a number of publications on the Tang, Song and Liao, among them The Song Dynasty (960-1279): A New Society as Mirrored in Its (Material) Culture (in German) (1987), Status and Ritual. Aristocratic China from the Beginnings to the10th Century (in German)
Visiting Fellow

Yong-tae-Yu is an Associate Professor teaching Modern East Asian History at the Dept. of History Education, Seoul National University. He is also an editor of The Journal of Northeast Asian History and The Korean History Education Review, both of which are published quarterly. He has earned a B.A. from the Dept. of History Education, SNU, M.A. from the Dept. of Asian History, Graduate School of SNU, and has received a Ph. D from Yonsei University specializing in Modern Chinese History, after which he served as a post-doctorate researcher at the Center for Studies on Republican Chinese History, Nanjing Univ., China. His study deals mainly with the peasant society, the occupational representation and the discourses of the Chinese Nation in 20th century China, and the history education in modern East Asia. Dr. Yu has recently published: Intellectual Youth, Public Properties and the Revolution of Peasant Society: Comparative Studies on the Three Provinces of Middle and Southern China in the 1920's (2004); Ringing Alarm Bell amidst Cheers: Reflection on the History Recognition and History Education in East Asia (2006); Occupation and Democracy: Occupational Representation in the 20th century China (tentative, forthcoming). He also participated in two joint publications: China’s Northeast Project and Sinocentrism (2005); East Asian History Education in Contemporary Korea, China and Japan (2008). As a visiting scholar at Princeton University, he wishes to participate in the exchange between the Korean and American academic communities and is going to further his study on Occupation and Democracy, which is being prepared.

Staff News

Our Department Manager, Kathleen Amon, is retiring from her position after seven years of service to East Asian Studies, but she will continue to work on special projects for the Department. She came to EAS from the School of Engineering and Applied Science, where she was Dean Jim Wei’s assistant. One of her first tasks in EAS was to help the previous chair, Sue Naquin, oversee the renovation of our beloved Jones Hall, a project that entailed moving most of the Department’s faculty members to temporary quarters for a year and participating in countless meetings to go over everything from the construction timeline to the details of the new office furniture. Her next challenge was to help me, a rookie chair, learn the ropes of departmental administration. With her consummate managerial skills and vibrant sense of humor, she made my job as chair downright fun. Three years ago Kathleen decided to scale back her work hours, which led EAS to become the first academic department to have two co-managers in a job-share arrangement. With Kathleen’s retirement, Donna Musial-Manners will take over as the full-time Department Manager on September 1, 2009. We will continue to see Kathleen frequently in Jones Hall after her retirement, but not so much that it keeps her from her many passions—birding, tennis, art, travel, and above all, her husband Jim and her children and grandchildren.

--David Howell, EAS Department Chair

New Chinese Language Lecturers

Jie Ying received her M.A. in Bicultural and Bilingual Education at Teachers College, Columbia University, in May 2009. Previously she taught in Columbia’s summer Chinese program in Beijing, and this summer she will teach for Princeton-in-Beijing.


Lingxia Zhou is a graduate of Beijing Normal University where she earned her Master’s degree in Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language. During 2008-09, she completed a year as an exchange student in the U.S. at the Graduate School of St. Cloud State University in Minnesota. While at St. Cloud, she majored in education. This summer Ms. Zhou will spend her second summer teaching in the Princeton in Beijing program during 2009.
New Classes

FALL: EAS 312/ANT 312
*Mind, Body, and Bioethics in Japan and Beyond*
Instructor: Amy Borovoy

The seminar will examine key concepts of the mind, the body, and the nature-culture distinction. We will study these issues in the context of Japanese beliefs about the good society, making connections between “lay culture,” Japanese notions of social democracy, and “science culture.” Topics include: styles of care for the mentally ill, the politics of disability, notions of human life and death, responses to bio-technology, the management of human materials (such as organs), cultural definitions of addiction and “co-dependency,” and the ethics of human enhancement.

SPRING: EAS 332/ANT 333
*Contemporary Chinese Society and Culture*
Instructor: Everett Y. Zhang

This course gives an overview of “contemporary China,” focusing on its transformation from Maoist socialism to the current Chinese society. It outlines Maoist socialism, and explores the changes since the late 1970s.

New Website

This spring the East Asian Studies Department and Program launched a new website. This new site offers easy navigation and gives visitors an expanded view of the projects, colloquia, student research, and spotlights a few of our alumni in East Asian Studies. Please visit us at http://eastasia.princeton.edu/. If you are an alumnus who would like to share your story with us, please email us easdept@princeton.edu.

Graduate Student News

New EAS Graduate Students

Daniel Burton-Rose completed his M.A. in Asian Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder. His thesis, “Integrating Inner Alchemy into Late Ming Cultural History,” is a contextualization and annotation of Xingming guizhi (1615). He plans to expand this research into a broader social history of cultivator networks in the late imperial period, using scriptures, local histories, iconography, and literary sources.

My name is Jue Chen. I have just acquired a Master’s degree in literature from the Chinese Department of Fudan University, Shanghai, China. Before that, I gained a Bachelor’s degree in economics. I changed my major because after several years of college study I finally found that my real interest is in humanities rather than others. I hope academic research can be a career that I may dedicate myself to. My current major at Fudan is classical Chinese literature, with a focus on the literature and culture of the Song Dynasty (960~1279). From April 2007 to March 2008, I studied as an exchange student in Tokyo, Japan. My M.A. thesis is about Song dynasty Chan poetry, and I plan to continue researching Chan Buddhism after coming to the US. But for my Ph.D. dissertation at Princeton, I want to research something else, something about Song dynasty literati and their literature, philosophy and culture.
New EAS Graduate Students

Kjell Ericson received his M.A. in East Asian Studies from Stanford University and a B.A. in Chemistry from Dartmouth College. His master’s thesis examined popular conceptions of natural resources in World War II Japan, focusing on campaigns to distribute rubber balls and other items to children in the Japanese Empire. He lived in Japan for several years as a participant on the JET program, where he taught high school students to make tofu, hosted a radio show, and served as an interpreter for a Czech youth soccer team. In the spirit of his undergraduate major, he plans to combine elements of his interests in science and Japanese history during his studies at Princeton.

Kaoru Hayashi: Born and raised in Gifu, Japan, and worked at TV broadcasting for six years before I finally realized my dream to study in the United States, and to be the first in my family to go to college. During my early study, I focused on mass media, film, and theatre and first received an A.A at LaGuardia Community College in NY. I worked for a theatre/film production before entering Smith College where my long-harbored love for Japanese classic literature was reinvigorated. In 2008 I completed a B.A. in East Asian Languages and Cultures, concentrating in Japanese pre-modern literature, during which time I also studied Chinese and went to Beijing. After graduated from Smith, I taught theatre in the Humanities department of LaGuardia Community College. My current research interests include the evolution of the reception of Japanese classics in the construction of national and cultural identity. I am interested in reexamining gender issues, mapping the construction of the classical canon, and exploring the role of classic war-tales, especially the Tale of the Heike, in the identity- and nation-building process. I am drawn to examine the use of classics in textbooks and propaganda in Japan and Japanese colonies during modernization programs and times of war.

Cameron Moore will enter the Department of East Asian Studies this fall in pre-modern Chinese literature. Born in Southern California and raised in rural Alaska, Cameron completed his B.A. in Italian Literature and EAS at the University of Arizona in 2007. He then completed his M.A. in East Asian Languages & Cultures at Columbia University in 2009. His primary research focus is exegesis and commentary on early Chinese classical texts, but his interests extend into paleography and the development of Chinese literature from the Zhou to the Six Dynasties. His non-academic interests include mixing music, hip hop & break dance/culture, and hiking of all sorts. He is very much looking forward to new experiences and opportunities at Princeton.

Yangyang Su is an international student from mainland China. After receiving his B.A. (Major in history, 2007) at Nanjing University, he spent another two years there for the graduate study of modern China before coming to Princeton. His fields of interest include Modern Chinese History, transnational history and history of medicine. He intends to center on the intersection between politics and medicine and public health in twentieth-century China and beyond.

Xinxian Zheng was born and brought up in Suzhou, China. Before graduating from Nanjing University in 2007 (B.A. in History), she started with her project on nursing and philanthropy in the Second Sino-Japanese War during her year as an exchange student at the University of Tokyo (2006-2007). After two years of graduate studies at Beijing University, she joins EAS at Princeton University to further her interest in Sino-Japanese cultural relations and history of science.
New EAS Related Graduate Students

**Douglas Gildow** (Religion) will enter the program in fall 2009 with Stephen Teiser as his advisor. He completed an M.A. at Harvard (Regional Studies East Asia, 2006), with a thesis exploring Taiwanese mortuary rituals and deification, and he completed two years in a Ph.D. program at UC Berkeley (Buddhist Studies) prior to coming to Princeton. This summer he was in China, meeting scholars and scouting out potential field sites. His research will focus on contemporary Chinese religion.

**Paul Kreitman** (Japanese History) grew up in London, U.K. He stumbled into East Asia during a year out before university, teaching English in Shanghai and backpacking around China and Japan. He graduated from Oxford in 2006 with a B.A. in History, writing his undergraduate thesis on the cartography of Manchuria/Northeast China. After Oxford he interned at the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh and worked as a carbon offset consultant at an investment bank in Tokyo. At Princeton he plans to focus his research on the role played by informal credit networks in Japan’s economic development.

**Patrick Schwemmer** (Comparative Literature) after graduating from Oberlin College with a background in Greek, Latin and Hebrew literature, Patrick spent three years in a mountain village on Japan’s JET Programme. Returning to America, he undertook M.A. studies at Yale focused on pre-modern Japanese literature and contemporary literary theory, then went back to Japan for a year at the IUC. During this time he deepened his interest in Noh drama and found, in Syriac Christian liturgical dialogues, a near-eastern counterpart—though which pairing he hopes to investigate religious performance at opposite ends of the “silk road”.

**Liesl Yamaguchi** (Comparative Literature) is thrilled to be joining the Princeton community this fall. Working primarily in French, Finnish, and English, Liesl studies the intersections of ethics and minimalist aesthetics in modern literature, particularly poetry. This inquiry recently led her to commence studying Japanese, a pursuit she plans to continue throughout her time at Princeton. Before beginning her PhD, Liesl studied literary theory at la Sorbonne-Paris IV, comparative literature at Columbia (B.A. ’06), linguistics and gender equality at Helsinki University (Fulbright ’07) and modernist poetry at Oxford (M.St ’08). She then served as Special Assistant & Advisor to the Ambassador at the U.S. Embassy Helsinki, and was awarded a Finnish Literature Society translation grant for Poetry.

Recent Ph.D. Graduates

**Chunmei Du**, My dissertation uses a transnational approach to reexamine the life and thought of Gu Hongming (1857-1928), a cosmopolitan scholar who became a premier exponent of Confucianism to the early twentieth century Western world. Using Gu as a case study, my project further studies two transnational networks that I term “diasporic Chinese professionals” from colonial Southeast Asia, and “spokesmen for the East” from China, Japan, India, and Russia in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. My research interests include modern Chinese intellectual history, Chinese diaspora, and Western imaginations of China and the “East.” In the summer of 2009, I will visit the National Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai. Starting in August, I will start teaching in the History Department of Western Kentucky University as an assistant professor.

**Sun Yinggang** starts a new position this fall in Shanghai as Assistant Professor of Chinese Studies at Fudan University jointly in the Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies and the History Department. Dissertation: Princely Patronage in Scholarly World of Sui and Early Tang China (581-713).
Graduate Student Spotlight

**Eri Saikawa** received a B.E. from the University of Tokyo, Japan, in Chemistry and Biotechnology, and obtained a master’s degree from Indiana University, Bloomington in Public Affairs, concentrating on Environmental Policy and Natural Resource Management. In 2004 she interned at the World Bank, researching integrated air quality management in four Asian cities. In the summer of 2005, she attended the Young Scientists Summer Program at the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis in Laxenburg, Austria, and worked on China’s air pollution management. After coming to Princeton, she has studied Korean and Mandarin, and she is currently working on her dissertation that covers a broad range of topics from international relations and the politics of East Asia to atmospheric chemistry, combining them into an overall examination of the diffusion mechanism of environmental policies. Her research interests include transboundary air pollution, international relations, environmental policy and politics.

Students in Absentia

**2008-09**

**Erin Brightwell:** I have been at the IUC for the last twelve months, pursuing advanced training in modern Japanese. The year has been extremely helpful in terms of language study, and happily, I have been able to squeeze in some time for research, too: I was able to participate in two study groups, one at Rikkyo University, and one at Waseda, and then I got to present my own work at the Asian Studies Conference Japan in June. What has really kept me going, though, were the opportunities to get involved with traditional performing arts here. I have been taking shamisen lessons for the past year, and through my sponsoring organization, CWAJ, I have also been indoctrinated (?) in the pleasures of bunraku. It has been so rewarding to experience and engage in traditional art as a participant, not just an observer—I look forward to trying to bring that into my research somehow.

**Yulia Frumer**

**Sangho Ro**

**2009-10**

**Nick Admussen** is researching modern and contemporary Chinese prose poetry in Los Angeles, California. His first journal article, on Lu Xun, Baudelaire, and prosodic innovation in the early days of 白话, will appear in CLEAR late this year. His poetry translations have been accepted at Renditions and in an upcoming anthology titled *Prose Poetry in East Asia*. He is currently preparing the second chapter of his dissertation, which examines the impact of the historical tradition of prose poetry on contemporary writing. This last semester, his own poems have appeared in Blackbird magazine, and are forthcoming in Barrow Street and at the Mid-American Review.

**Minlei Ye:** From fall 2009 to summer 2010, I am traveling around China, Taiwan, and Japan to work on my dissertation on Chinese Kunqu opera amateurs in the first half of the twentieth century. I am going to visit libraries, conduct interviews, and attend opera clubs of Kunqu lovers.

**William Bridges**

**Ori Sela**
Betty Cox
Chinese Language
“Reviving the Burma Road: 1927-2009”

Cara M. Healey
Chinese Language
“Portrayals of Women in Selected Works of Shen Congwen and Ding Ling”

Jessica A. Kellogg
Japanese Language
“Where Culture and Consumerism Meet: An analysis of Japanese Commercials”

Injoong J. Kim
Japanese Language
“Early English Education in Korea and Japan”

Sumin Lee
Korean Language
“Let Us Pray for Our Northern Brothers: South Korean Missions Work for North Korea”

Alissa Lorentz
Chinese Language
“The Intersection of Power, Iconic Architecture, and The Media in Constructing the Bird’s Nest and Water Cube for the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games”

Ugochi Madubata
Japanese Language
“Disabilities in Japan: An Investigation into the Japanese Reaction to Disability Through an Analysis of Disability in Comparison to other Minority Statuses”

Julie Rubinger
Japanese Language
“Arts and the Olympics: The Legacy of the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Arts Festival”

Joshua Weinstein
Chinese Language

Alexander Wolf Galimberti
Chinese Language
From the Occident to the Orient and Back: Christian Missionaries and The Western Perceptions of China”

Priscilla M. Babb
Politics

Easton K. Chen
English

Megan Chiao
Operations Research & Financial Engineering

Harsha Alexander Dante
Economics

Chole Estep
Comparative Literature

Frederick G. Hall
History

Kate A. Poole
Religion

Christopher Pozzi
Economics

Shriya I. Raghavan
Operations Research & Financial Engineering

Department Certificate Students, 2009

Jonathan D. Weed
Mathematics

Fan Yu
Psychology

East Asian Studies Program Certificate Students, 2009

Julia Yoon
Politics

Jenny F. Zhang
Politics

Sarah S. Xue
Economics

Douglas G. Lavanture
English

Alice M. Lloyd George
Woodrow Wilson School

Paul S. Markoff
Woodrow Wilson School

Kevin C. Shiau
Economics

Julian S. Smisek
Woodrow Wilson School

Su Wang
Woodrow Wilson School

Alec D. Williams
Woodrow Wilson School

Jiwon J. Yhee
Woodrow Wilson School

Karl A. Yoder
Woodrow Wilson School

Julian S. Smisek
Woodrow Wilson School

Sarah S. Xue
Economics
Thesis Prizes

LEIGH BUCHANAN BIENEN AND HENRY BIENEN SENIOR THESIS PRIZE WINNERS:
The prize of $1,000 is awarded to the senior who has written the most outstanding thesis on an East Asian topic. The senior thesis must be based on extensive and appropriate sources in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean as well as Western language materials.

2006:
Serene Hung, WWS: “China in ASEAN-Led Multilateral Forums” (Tom Christensen)

2007:

2008:
Bianca L. Bosker, East Asian Studies: “Faking it Big: Simulacra Cityscapes in Contemporary China: The Chinese Passion for Replicating the Alien” (Jerome Silbergeld)

2009:
Katie Ko: “Identity and Innovation: A Taiwanese Perspective of Promoting Companies’ Global Growth and Integration” (Lynn White)

THE MARJORY CHADWICK BUCHANAN SENIOR THESIS PRIZE WINNERS:
This prize, originally established by the Class of ’44 and now provided through the Marjory Chadwick Buchanan fund, is awarded to the senior in the Department of East Asian Studies who, in the opinion of the department, submits the best thesis based, at least in part, on source materials in an Asian language.

2006:
Robert Kennelly: “Tongzhi Tropes in a Dystopic World: The Visuality of Human Isolation, Connection, and Queer Identity in the Films of Tsai Ming-Liang” (Jerome Silbergeld)

2007:
Christopher Sedgwick, “Ecology, Mechanics, and the Director: The Films of Miyazaki Hayao” (Richard Okada)

2008:
Daniel A. Samit, “Kujira: An Exploration of Japanese Whaling” (Documentary Film) (Richard Okada)

2009
Julie Rubinger. “Arts and the Olympics: The Legacy of the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Arts Festival” (Martin Collcutt)

PiA 2008-2009: Dispatches from the Field

Julie McWilliams, Class of ’08 graduated from Princeton with a degree in Politics and a certificate in Spanish. She was a 2007 PiA Summer of Service volunteer teacher in Jishou, China, and is now teaching English at Vientiane College in Vientiane, Laos. In August 2008, Julie began to study the Lao language twice a week with a private tutor. Speaking Lao has changed the quality of her interactions with natives, and has played a major role in shaping her experience:

“Although hitting plateaus in progress along the way, as I head into my second year I am realizing just how far I’ve come as I am now able to pick up bits of conversation among my students. When the 14-year-old girls in my class discuss their male peers in their respective cliques (“Oi! Poon Sao, sep laiiii laiiiiii!,” “Oh! He’s SO cute!”), I can surprise them with an unexpected retort (“Jao say pai yoo nam mak nai!” = “You should ask him out for lime juice!”). During Tak Baht (Buddhist lent) when I’m rowing in a dragon boat race with my Lao teammates, I can laugh and joke about our leaking boat. If the soccer team I coach has a big win, I can express my pride to my players. On a practical level, when ice tumors choke my freezer, I can ask my landlord in the politest of manners to fix it and when my motorbike breaks down in the middle of a monsoon, I can explain to the mechanic that there is water in the engine. What I cannot do is imagine what my life in Laos would be like without studying the Lao language. Building relationships, connecting with the culture, and enhancing the quality of my teaching, my language study has been an integral part of my experience here.”
Lisa Kelley, Class of ’08, who received an Evolutionary Biology degree and Environmental Studies certificate from Princeton, spent two summers as a volunteer teacher with PiA’s Summer of Service program. Her thirst for all things Asian still unquenched, Lisa moved to Hanoi, Vietnam to work for TRAF FIC, a wildlife trade monitoring network. Next year she will begin a PiA fellowship in Bangkok at RECOFTC, an organization that works to build capacity for community forestry. Her study of Vietnamese has made her feel much more connected to the country’s culture:

“My language lessons in Vietnamese have been one of the most rewarding aspects of my fellowship. Vietnamese is a difficult language: it has 6 tones and 8-9 different words for “he” depending on whether he’s old or young, whether you don’t actually like him but are being polite, whether you don’t actually like him and aren’t being polite, etc. But this has only made the effort I have put in more valuable. Even when I am bungling tones, the people I’m speaking with, many of whom don’t speak any English, have consistently been kind, patient and helpful. I hope the interactions have been as meaningful for them as they have been for me! Making the effort to speak with people in their native language has felt to me the most straightforward way of showing them that I respect their culture and am interested in learning about it.”

Annie Preis, Class of ’07 was a religion major and theater certificate student at Princeton. She headed to Thailand after graduation to teach English at Khon Kaen University, and is spending her second PiA year as an assistant program officer at the Aceh Peace Resource Center in Banda Aceh, Indonesia. Thanks to a grant funded by the EAS Program, Annie has devoted considerable energy to her study of Bahasa Indonesia. While Annie’s Indonesian language skills are essential at her work placement, they have also allowed her to become a part of her community:

“Learning the language and committing to learning it well has allowed me to enter the villages, homes and families of my colleagues and neighbors. While I am not yet quite fluent in Indonesian, I think the effort that my friends and neighbors see me putting into learning the language and not just relying on translators (or restricting my communication to those who are formally educated enough to feel comfortable in English) has been an important sign of respect and genuine interest in being a part of the community that is hosting me. Neighbors have whisked me away to weddings. My host family happily towed me along to visit dozens of extended family members for the three-day Idl Fitri holiday. I’ve discovered cycling clubs. Becak drivers have slowed down to painfully low speeds so that we can chat about their families and lives before the Tsunami. All this because of my comfort with Indonesian…it is the way that Indonesian language study has allowed me to build relationships with people who are now friends and family that has really made it so important to my PiA experience.”

Max Jacobson, Class of ’07 studied Operations Research and Financial Engineering at Princeton. Instead of searching out a post-graduation job in finance, he decided instead to become an English teacher at Dalian University of Technology in Dalian, China. Despite the fact that he had never been to Asia and spoke almost no Chinese upon arrival, Max is now in his second year in Dalian and is an advanced Chinese speaker. Here he explains how helpful the grant has been, and how addicted he is to studying Chinese:

“This semester, I am set to complete the most advanced Chinese language course offered at our university’s foreign exchange program. Although it uses a fee schedule geared towards foreigners, the formal classes offered at DUT have given me the structure and motivation to devote myself to learning Chinese. Given the high cost of attendance, I could not have made the progress I have without your support. Your generosity has enabled me to both spend more time studying rather than working extra hours to pay for my classes, and to use Chinese to further engage with my community. Speaking some Chinese has enabled me to have more meaningful relationships with my students, my colleagues, and the man who delivers water to my apartment complex…From learning the ABC’s of Chinese to trying to figure out the difference between long-lasting, permanent, forever, and long-term, Chinese has always provided me with a delectable cocktail of challenge and frustration. And I think it’s that frustration that keeps me coming back for more.”

Yu Shin Chuang, Class of ’07 is a PiA fellow in the TV newsroom of ABS-CBN, Manila’s largest broadcasting company. In her spare time, she also takes Tagalog lessons from a tutor she met through Peace Corps volunteers. Here she explains how important her Tagalog skills have been for her job, as well as her daily life:
“As a journalist, I need to be able to communicate with my interviewees and my audience. While there are some things I can do in the newsroom with just English, I would be greatly handicapped without any knowledge of Tagalog. It is endlessly helpful to learn the language not only for my workplace, but also for living here. I am so thankful for the language grant I received – it has been a KEY aspect of my experience in the Philippines. My year in Manila would still be great if I wasn’t learning Tagalog, but it would nowhere close to what it is now. I am learning so much about the culture and because of my increasing Tagalog vocabulary, I really get to experience it. It has changed me from an observer to a participant in the society. Thank you!”

Matt Berry, Class of ’07, majored in Politics. Although familiar with exotic locales such as Botswana, South Africa, and Costa Rica, Matt’s PiA year as an English teacher in Phang Nga Province, Thailand, marked his first experience in Asia. He is now working as a second year PiA fellow at the National Democratic Institute in Aceh, Indonesia. Matt studied Thai in the country for a month before he started teaching, and feels that his language training significantly improved his relationships with students and co-workers:

“My early language coursework provided an important foundation to build on. Bangsak, the town where I live, has few English speakers and I speak Thai throughout the day…Most students at the 35th Rajaprarajanugroh School speak limited English. Having a background in Thai was a huge plus for the start of my time at R35. In the classroom it has allowed me to more effectively communicate concepts and better anticipate issues that my students may have. Outside of class I’ve been able to form strong relationships at all levels of the school – students, faculty, and staff. I believe that the relationships I’ve been able to make through my speaking Thai have encouraged my students to speak English more confidently, and have strengthened connections with my Thai co-teachers.”

On behalf of Princeton in Asia, we would like to sincerely thank the East Asian Studies Program for its continued support of language study for Princeton in Asia fellows. The EAS Program’s generous grant of $5,000 this past year has allowed numerous PiA fellows to learn various Asian languages, an opportunity often financially difficult, given a fellow’s typical salary. The ability to study language has greatly impacted these fellows’ lives and, in turn, those of the communities in which they live.

The EAS Program grant has been used to underwrite language study for PiA fellows in a broad array of Asian languages. Thanks to your support, some PiA fellows have been able to continue their study of Japanese and Mandarin that they begun here at Princeton, while others have able to begin learning more obscure languages at their posts, such as Thai, Malay, Lao, Indonesian, Vietnamese, Hindi, Mongolian, Tagalog, and Tetum. The opportunity to communicate in the local language adds depth and color to our fellows’ experience, beyond that which would otherwise be available to a western visitor, and in turn allows them to make more meaningful contributions to their communities. As always, the words of the PiA fellows themselves are the best tribute to the impact that the opportunity for language study has had on their time in Asia. Attached are excerpts from some of their dispatches from the field, first-hand testimonials of how the EAS Program’s support has enhanced their experiences in Asia.

On behalf of all PiA fellows past and present, we thank you for your incredible generosity in supporting language study for our talented young people. We greatly appreciate all that you have done to enhance their understanding of Asia. Please do not hesitate to contact us if there is any further information we may provide.

Warmest regards,

Anastasia Vrachnos
Executive Director

Megan McGowan
Program Director

On behalf of Princeton in Asia
EAS PROGRAM EVENTS 2008-09

Swords and Canons: Constructing an Ethics of Violence in Early 20th Century Japan
October 1, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Chris Goto-Jones, Professor of Modern Japan Studies at Leiden University, Netherlands, and Director of the Modern East Asia Research Centre.

The Industrial Organization of the Japanese Bar: Levels and Determinants of Attorney Income
October 10, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
J. Mark Ramseyer, Mitsubishi Professor of Japanese Legal Studies, Harvard Law School.

Prostitution and Mobility in Tokugawa Japan: Tora’s Story
October 15, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Amy Stanley, Northwestern University.

Tactile Culture in Japan: From Compassionate Care to Empowering Use of Disabilities
October 20, 2008 · 203 Jones Hall
Kojiro Hirose, Department of Cultural Research, Associate Professor, National Museum of Ethnology.

Memory and Memorization in Tang China
October 22, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Christopher M. B. Nugent, Assistant Professor of Chinese, Department of Asian Studies, Williams College.

The Original Meaning of the Idea “Xing”(行) and Its Extension in Chinese Classics of the Pre-Qin Period
November 3, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Dennis Cheng, National Taiwan University.

Traveling Culture and Asian Export Art
November 5, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Chi-ming Yang, Assistant Professor of English, University of Pennsylvania.

Bureaucracy and the State: What Do the Contemporary Inscriptions Say about the Western Zhou?
November 12, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Li Feng, Associate Professor of Early Chinese History, EALAC, Columbia University.

Are There Political Resources for Democratic Institutions in Chinese History?
November 13, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Pierre-Étienne Will, Chair of History of Modern China at Collège de France, Paris.

Appeasing a Rising China: Implications for Peace and Democracy
November 17, 2008 · MPR C Frist Campus Center
Edward Friedman, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Taipei’s Perspective on the Result of the U.S. Presidential Election
November 18, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Dr. Chung Pin Lin, Tamkang University

Portents and Politics in Late-Tokugawa Japan: Kurosawa Tokiko and the Comet of 1858
November 19, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Laura Nenzi, Department of History, Florida International University.

Exploring the “Healing Boom” in Japan: How was “Iyashi (healing)” commercialized and institutionalized?
December 10, 2008 · 202 Jones Hall
Y. David Chung, Director, Center for Korean Studies, Associate Professor, School of Art + Design International Institute, University of Michigan.

Yoshida Shoin, Inoue Tetsujiro, and Naito Konan: Rediscovering Modern Japan’s Attitude toward America, Germany, and China through Interpersonal Relations
February 4, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
De-min Tao, Professor & Director, Institute for Cultural Interaction Studies, Kansai University.

Samurai Gangsta: Hip-Hop, Japan, and the New Politics of Change
February 6, 2009 · 302 Frist Campus Center
Ian Condy, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Koryo Saram: The Unreliable People: Film Screening and a Conversation with Filmmaker Y. David Chung
February 10, 2009 · 010 East Pyne
Y. David Chung, Director, Center for Korean Studies, Associate Professor of Teaching Excellence Associate Professor of History, Northwestern University.

The Transnational Repercussions of Village Pacification in Southeast Coastal China, 1869-1891
February 11, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
Melissa Macauley, Institute for Advanced Study, and Charles Deering McCormick Professor of Teaching Excellence Associate Professor of History, Northwestern University.

Personal Moments in Medieval Chinese Poetry
February 18, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
Paul W. Kroll, Institute for Advanced Study/University of Colorado.

Hidden Transcripts: Bao Shichen’s “Advice to the Prince
February 25, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
William Rowe, Johns Hopkins University.

Travels With Tanxu: A Buddhist Monk in Search of China, 1875-1963
March 4, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
James Carter, Associate Professor of History, Saint Joseph’s University.
“Japan is a German Colony”: Medical Science, Physicians on the Move, and German ‘Soft Power’ in Meiji Japan  
March 5, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Hoi-eun Kim, Ph.D, History, Texas A&M University.

Doing Research on Managing Cultural Heritage In China  
March 9, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Luca Zan, University of Bologna, Visiting Fellow, Princeton University.

The Magnolia Terrace (Lantai 藻臺) Group in the Later Han Dynasty and Their Literary Activities  
March 10, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Jun Chen, Institute of Literature, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

Gendered Utopias in Chinese Porcelains and English Women’s Writings of the 17th Century  
March 11, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
David Porter, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature University of Michigan.

An Eyewitness Account of the Long March: The Unpublished Memoirs of Missionary Arnolis Hayman  
March 31, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Associate-Professor Anne-Marie Brady, School of Political and Social Sciences, University of Canterbury.

The Changing Shadows of Giuseppe Castiglione  
April 1, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Marco Musillo, Ricci Institute for Chinese-Western Cultural History.

The Daoist State in Qing China  
April 2, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  

Xibo: A ‘Superstitious’ Paper Industry and Its Modern Fate  
April 6, 2009 · 203 Jones Hall  
Weilin Pan, Ph.D. student of Modern Chinese History, Department of History, Fudan University; Visiting scholar, Asian Pacific Studies Institute, Duke University

On the Strange Convergence of Fears: Money and the Body in East Asian and Western Medicine  
April 9, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Shigehisa Kuriyama, Reischauer Institute Professor of Cultural History, Departments of East Asian Languages and Civilizations / History of Science, Harvard University.

Purity and Bloody Victuals in Ancient Japan  
April 13, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Michael Como, the Toshu Fukami Assistant Professor of Shinto Studies in the Dept. of Religion, Columbia University.

Japan’s Late Meiji (Early Twentieth Century) Violin Boom  
April 15, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Margaret Mehl, University of Copenhagen, History of Japan.

A Catholic Village in North China: Lineage, Temple Cult, Nationalism and Transnational Identity, 1700-2000  
April 16, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Henrietta Harrison, Professor of History, Harvard University.

Writing Naturally: Xie Lingyun’s (385-433) Landscape Works  
April 20, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Wendy Swartz, Assistant Professor of Pre-modern Chinese Literature, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures, Columbia University.

Diplomacy in Couplets: Poetry and Japan’s Missions to Tang China  
April 22, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Wietke Denecke, Assistant Professor of Chinese and Japanese Literature, Barnard College, Columbia University.

Understanding China Demographic and Business Census Data with GIS  
On April 24 2009 · 203 Jones Hall  
Bao Shuming, University of Michigan.

On The Cambridge History of Chinese Literature  
April 29, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Kang-i Sun Chang, Yale University.

“Heavenly Pattern Reading” and the Origins of Writing in China  
April 30, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
David Pankenier, Lehigh University.

Action Documentary: The Emperor’s Naked Army Marches On, with filmmaker Hara Kazuo  
May 8, 2009 · James Stewart Theater

Teaching Buddhism by Means of Words: the Language of Dogen in Shobogenzo  
May 8, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Aldo Tollini, Ca’ Foscari University, Venice, Italy.

Rituals of Repentance (Chanhui) in Fifth-Sixth Century China  
May 12, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
Funayama Toru, Kyoto University.

Turning to Translation  
May 13, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall  
The F.W. Mote Memorial Lecture Series

This annual lecture series in honor of Professor Mote is made possible by the generosity of his family and many friends via contributions to the F. W. Mote Memorial Lecture Fund. This fund has enabled the establishment of this lectureship, to invite to Princeton eminent scholars of Chinese studies.

Past Lectures
Ying-shih Yü delivered the Inaugural Mote Memorial Lecture on October 18, 2006 in Jones Hall 202 on the topic of “Zhu Xi (1130-1200) and Song Political Culture.”

Nicola Di Cosmo of the Institute for Advanced Study gave two lectures for the series on October 23 and 24, 2007 in Jones Hall 202 entitled: “Writing Alien History: “Barbarian” Historiography in Ancient China” and “Before the Manchu Conquest of China: the Great Enterprise Reconsidered”.


Upcoming Lecture
October, 20th, 2009 4:30PM 202 Jones Hall
“Thinking Through Poetry:
Du Fu’s “Getting Rid of the Blues” (Jiemen)”
Focused on a reading of a sequence of quatrains by Du Fu, this lecture argues that poetry enabled thinking about complex issues in ways that Chinese prose of the middle period (pre-Song) could not achieve. “Getting Rid of the Blues” weaves together food and poetry in the context of empire as a system of circulation of goods with variable value.

Stephen Owen, James Bryant Conant University Professor. Professor of Comparative Literature, Harvard University: Professor Owen’s primary areas of research interest are premodern Chinese literature, lyric poetry, and comparative poetics. Much of his previous work has focused on the middle period of Chinese Literature (200-1200); however, he is currently engaged in writing a collection of essays on Chinese literature of the early period. He has a concurrent interest in Chinese drama of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. His most recent books have been: An Anthology of Chinese Literature: Beginnings to 1911 (Norton 1996), The End of the Chinese “Middle Ages” (Stanford, 1996), Readings in Chinese Literary Thought (Harvard, 1992), Mi-lou: Poetry and the Labyrinth of Desire (Harvard, 1989), Remembrances: The Experience of the Past in Classical Chinese Literature (Harvard, 1986), and Traditional Chinese Poetry and Poetics (Wisconsin, 1985). Three earlier books on Chinese poetry were published by Yale.

Marius B. Jansen Memorial Lecture Series

This annual lecture series in honor of Professor Marius B. Jansen is made possible by the generosity of his family and many friends via contributions to the Marius Jansen Memorial Lecture Fund. This fund has enabled the establishment of this lectureship to invite to Princeton eminent scholars of Japanese studies.

Past Lectures


Herman Ooms, University of California, Los Angeles, “Daoism in Ancient Japan: Still-Born or Aborted?” and “Multiple Choice: Justifications for rulership around the Tenmu Dynasty, 650-800”, May 12-13, 2008

Imagining Chushingura:
March 23-24, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
Henry D. Smith II, Professor of Japanese History, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures; Director, Kyoto Consortium of Japanese Studies, Columbia University.
“Chushingura as a History of Storytelling”; “Chūshingura” is widely perceived today as an opposition between the
“facts” of the historical revenge of the 47 Rōnin of Akō in 1701-03 and the prolific “fiction” that it spawned, most notably the play Kanadehon Chūshingura of 1748 that has given its name to the entire phenomenon. I argue that such a bifurcation of historical truth and literary imagination is misconceived, and all of Chūshingura must be seen as a history of storytelling—beginning with the historical protagonists, who saw their revenge from the start as an imagined narrative. This perspective highlights the importance of the bakufu prohibition of all news of the incident, encouraging fanciful versions in print or on stage, while the “true story” was left to be told in oral kōdan performances and illicit manuscripts that remain poorly documented today. These embellished histories were liberated in the later 19th century to become the mainstream of Chūshingura in mass entertainment, particularly film and television. Meanwhile, late Meiji ideologues and historians came to fashion the Akō Incident as uniquely Japanese and inspired by “Bushidō” values.

The Okado Memorandum as Literature
I wish to look closely at the genesis of Chūshingura, on a spring day in 1701, from the moment that Asano Naganori drew his sword in Edo Castle, until his execution by seppuku in the early evening. I will first look closely at the surviving evidence, and reveal how much still remains unanswered and worth rethinking after over three centuries of speculation. Particularly important in this documentation is the “Memorandum of Okado Denpachirō,” a bakufu inspector who arrived at the scene of Asano’s crime shortly after it occurred, and was present as a witness at his seppuku. After introducing the content and problems of the Okado Memorandum, I will trace its uses both by historians and in modern popular culture (particularly film), and then introduce some striking new ideas about the authenticity of the document by Tanaka Mitsurō, a little-known internet historian of the Akō Incident.

THE 2010 LECTURER WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN THE UPCOMING YEAR.

Henry Wendt III ’55 Series on Contemporary East Asia
The Wendt lecture series is the newest addition to the annual programs of the East Asian Studies Program, and it aims to bring to Princeton key speakers on contemporary issues in East Asia.

Past Lectures
“Korea’s Changing Role in Asia”
Wednesday, February 20, 2008
Jonathan Pollack (Naval War College)
Samuel Kim (Columbia University, Emeritus)
Gi-Wook Shin (Stanford University)

For our 2007-2008 event, the Wendt program committee focused on current political, economic, and diplomatic concerns on the Korean peninsula. Because of the complexity and breadth of the theme, we invited three distinguished scholars to take part in a panel discussion that took place in front of a packed crowd in “Bowl 2” in Robertson Hall. Professor Pollack, a leading specialist on security issues, brought the audience up to speed on the latest in the multi-party efforts to have North Korea give up its nuclear program, focusing on the problems involved in dealing with high levels of uncertainty regarding decision-making in Pyongyang. Professor Shin, one of the leading sociologists in the field, traced the South Korean media coverage, particularly among left- and right-wing newspapers, of both North Korea and the United States, showing how levels of trust of both nations have waxed and waned alongside changes in leadership and in the broader political context. Professor Kim, a distinguished scholar of Korea’s political economy, then examined South Korean economic development, focusing on the tensions generated by globalization and heightened nationalism. The three speakers then took questions from the audience, and some of their differences of opinion regarding American strategy became a bit more apparent in the lively back-and-forth. Many hands were still raised when our moderator, Professor Gil Rozman, had to call the fascinating event to a close.

Kidnapping Politics
May 7, 2009 · 202 Jones Hall
Richard J. Samuels, M.I.T.

Since 2002, when North Korean leader Kim Jong Il admitted that his government had abducted Japanese citizens, a riveting “captivity narrative” has engaged the Japanese media, government ministries, politicians, and civil society. Professor Samuels will examine the complex political dynamics surrounding two very different sets of abductees, one literal and the other metaphorical: The first is the group of young people swept off Japanese beaches and European streets by North Korean agents. The second comprises Japanese domestic politics and foreign diplomacy, and how each has been captured and put to partisan ends. He will ask if this troubling case is representative of Japanese politics and diplomacy overall, and will compare it to similar “captivity narratives” in the United States and elsewhere.
Symposium: China Seen by the Chinese: Documentary Photography, 1951–2003
Saturday, 24 October 2009 Helm Auditorium, McCosh 50
Organized by the P.Y. and Kinmay W. Tang Center for East Asian Art, Princeton University
Western photographers have been showing China to Westerners for 150 years, and photography has been a major medium in Western museums since the 1950s. It was not until 2003, however, that the Guangdong Museum of Art exhibited the first permanent collection of works by Chinese documentary photographers ever assembled by a Chinese museum. The Guangdong Museum’s collection was selected by a curatorial committee of photographers who spent two years touring more than 20 provinces, viewing 100,000 photographs, and selecting 600 works by 248 photographers. Beginning on 24 September 2009, the China Institute Gallery in New York will have the privilege of holding the first exhibition of this collection in America, featuring a selection of 100 of these photographs. In association with this event, the Tang Center for East Asian Art will host a symposium, “China Seen by the Chinese: Documentary Photography, 1951–2003,” at Princeton University on 24 October 2009. Presentations will consider historical and cross-cultural perspectives, critical and theoretical approaches to the subject, and the problem of defining “documentary” photography.
Registration: There is no registration fee, but advanced registration for the symposium is required. Space is limited. Reservations will be accepted in the order they are received. To receive symposium materials on-site, please register by 9 October 2009. Late registration and walk-ins will be accepted, space permitting, and symposium materials will be distributed as available.
Online registration will be available in September. To register now, call Andrea Scarlett at (609) 258-1741 or email your name, affiliation, and address to astearly@princeton.edu.
For further questions or additional assistance, please call Andrea Scarlett at (609) 258-1741.
For information online, please visit tang.princeton.edu

Lectures
Mary Hirsch, curator of “Luminous Worlds: Chinese Shadow Figures from The East Asian Library and The Gest Collection”
16 November 2009
4:30 pm, Jones 202
Co-sponsored by the Program in East Asian Studies and the Tang Center for East Asian Art

Patricia Berger, University of California, Berkeley
16 February 2010
4:30 pm, 106 McCormick Hall
Co-sponsored by the Department of Art and Archaeology and the Tang Center for East Asian Art

Graduate Student Symposium in East Asian Art: Hierarchies
Saturday, 27 February 2010
9:30 am–5:00 pm
101 McCormick Hall, Princeton University
Organized by the P.Y. and Kinmay W. Tang Center for East Asian Art
Historiography and art criticism have long been classification-conscious practices. Since the earliest art-historical writing in East Asia, historians and art critics alike created hierarchical systems for rating artists and ranking categories of art, privileging selected subject matters, genres of art, and means of expression. This has, in turn, helped to consolidate the place of the visual arts within a broad hierarchy of cultural pursuits. In what ways might these varied forms of hierarchical thinking and the values and prejudices they espoused have derived from the hierarchies, social or religious, that advanced them? How did differences in individual social standing or changes in social and religious structures over time and in different places contribute to variation or change in this kind of thinking? Artists, on the other hand, have had to negotiate their way through an ever-changing social landscape—be it social stratification of any type or the more narrowly defined market comprised of the state, religions institutions, private patrons, and fellow artists. In what ways can each artist’s work be understood as a reflection of or a challenge to the social relations behind it? Like boundaries that are drawn only to be transgressed, hierarchies crumble; the discursive and social dimensions of this theme should serve only as working parameters for our discussion. This symposium will provide the opportunity to explore and reexamine some of the prized and privileged notions—style/school, religious/secular, center/periphery, art/craft—and other epistemological hierarchies that we bring to the study of our subjects.
Two new professional librarians were hired in late 2008: a Japanese Cataloger (Chiharu Watsky) and our first Korean Studies Librarian (Hyoungbae Lee). The second appointment marked a new chapter in the history of the Library, long renowned for its Chinese and Japanese holdings. Our Chinese collection is the second largest collection in academic libraries in this country while our Japanese collection is well-regarded for its quality and balanced coverage. It will take time for our Korean collection to reach the first tier, but we have taken the first steps. The number of Korean books added to the collection doubled last year and we are in the process of revamping the Korean reference collection.

Our Korean resources took a quantum jump when we joined a consortium subscription of the huge e-Kore-an Studies database, which aggregates a number of databases on academic journals, reference resources, laws, North Korea and e-books. Meanwhile we keep our subscriptions of Choson Ilbo News Archives and KISS (academic journal database).

Similarly, we have been participating in consortium projects to subscribe to all important Japanese databases available. A recent addition is Zasshi kiji shu in database, an index to journal articles from the Meiji period to the present.

Circumstances allow us to be more aggressive in acquiring/subscribing e-resources in Chinese and western languages. Princeton is one of only four libraries in this country with access to Duxiu, a truly gigantic Chinese full-text database of 2.6 million titles and 600 million pages of contents, mainly of post-1949 books published in China but also includes pre-1949 publications and books published in Taiwan and Hong Kong and a sizable amount of periodicals. Additions are made daily. People with Princeton affiliation can request up to 20% of most books be sent to their e-mail accounts in any one week.

Other new databases promise to change the way research will be conducted. They include Wisers’ News, a daily updated archive of news items from over 1,500 content providers from Greater China; two electronic Chinese reference collections of over 250 dictionaries, encyclopedias, bibliographies, biographical dictionaries and indexes. We can now read, download or print a selection of PRC theses and dissertations in the fields of literature, history and philosophy. For people interested in China outside the traditional humanities and social sciences, the expansion of the China Academic Journals database to include all subject categories (Science/Engineering, Agriculture and Medicine/Hygiene) is certainly welcome. We now have access to about 8,500 Chinese periodicals electronically, with backfiles to at least 1994 and about half to the very first issue. The electronic Brill’s Encyclopedia of China will be particular useful to undergraduates and people with limited or no knowledge of the Chinese language.

We also digitize rare items in our own collection. We are currently in the final year of a 3-year co-operative project with Academia Sinica, the Library of Congress and Harvard University to digitize Chinese rare books. This project is funded by the Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation. A large number of our renowned traditional Chinese medical texts have been digitized and will be accessible through the library webpage in the coming year.

Print acquisitions continue. With generous support of the North American Coordinating Council on Japan Library Resources, we acquired the 100-volume set Okinawa sengo shoki senryo shiryo, records mostly in English of the early occupation of Okinawa by the American Military Government from June 1945 through June 1946. We purchased historical primary sources such as dispatches from U.S. consuls in Canton, budget archives from the Qing and Republican periods, records on foreign land holdings in Shanghai, and archives on China’s participation at the Universal Expositions during the late Qing dynasty.

In the summer of 2009 the East Asian Library held an exhibition, Luminous Worlds, which introduces our collection of Chinese shadow figures. This collection of over 2,000 pieces of Chinese shadow figures were acquired in the late 1920s for G.M. Gest (1864-1948), the founder of the Gest Collection. While this collection was known to some major American practitioners of Chinese shadow theater, it remained unknown to the general public until the Princeton resident and specialist in Chinese shadow theater Mary Hirsch volunteered to catalog and re-house the collection. This project has culminated in this beautifully mounted exhibition, which she curated with assistance from people inside and outside the library. For the first time in more than 50 years the general public is given a small but wide-ranging introduction to this rare and valuable collection.

November 12-14, 2009
East Asia and the Early Modern World:
Part 1--Fresh Perspectives on Intellectual and Cultural History 1550-1800

In the fall of 2009 PIIRS and the Program in East Asian Studies will launch the planning phase of the research cluster “East Asia and the Early Modern World: Fresh Perspectives on Material Culture, Social Formations, and Intellectual History, 1550–1800.” Principal investigators and coordinators of the three-year research cluster are David Howell, chair of the Department of East Asian Studies, and Professors of History and EAS, Susan Naquin and Benjamin Elman.

This research cluster investigates three new areas on different margins of the present historiography and reexamines the frameworks for understanding East Asia between 1550 and 1800. Using new sources, making new connections, and reexamining old assumptions, the investigators ask whether and why China and Japan should be called “early modern” and explore whether European modernity is an appropriate standard at all for East Asia. Individually and collectively, the researchers seek to establish linkages between societies without making a priori assumptions about the countries’ internal structures or the genealogy of their connections.

Faculty

Benjamin Elman is a professor of East Asian studies and history and director of the Program in East Asian Studies. His courses focus on the social and cultural history of premodern China, the history of education in China; the history of science and medicine in China and Japan, research methods for classical historiography, and Sino-Japanese cultural interactions, 1600–1800. He has published widely in the intellectual history of China and has coauthored the world history textbook, Worlds Together, Worlds Apart. Publications relevant to this PIIRS project include: From Philosophy to Philology: Social and Intellectual Aspects of Change in Late Imperial China (2001); A Cultural History of Civil Examinations in Late Imperial China (2000); On Their Own Terms: Science in China, 1550–1900 (2005). Ph.D. University of Pennsylvania.

David Howell ’89 is a professor of history and chair of the Department of East Asian Studies. His courses at Princeton include undergraduate surveys of early modern Japanese history, modern East Asian history, the samurai in Japanese history and culture, and graduate seminars on a variety of topics in early-modern and nineteenth-century Japanese history. He is the author of two books, Capitalism from Within: Economy, Society, and the State in a Japanese Fishery (1995) and Geographies of Identity in Nineteenth-Century Japan (2005), and numerous articles. Ph.D. Princeton University.

Susan Naquin is a professor of history and East Asian studies. Her research interests include the social and cultural history of early modern China (1600–1900) and popular religion and material culture of China. She is the author numerous publications including Millenarian Rebellion in China: The Eight Trigrams Uprising of 1813 (1976), Shantung Rebellion: The Wang Lun Uprising of 1774 (1981), and Peking: Temples and City Life, 1400–1900 (2000). Ph.D. Yale University.

Mercer Trust

Current Projects.

Under the auspices of the most recent grant from The Mercer Trust, the Program in East Asian Studies recently launched a program in Spring 2008 that made available “Grants for Conferences and Workshops in East Asian Studies” for 2008-2010. We solicited applications in several rounds over this period, and the first round applications were due on March 31, 2008. The generous grant from the Mercer Trust enables the Program in East Asian Studies to provide a number of grants for Princeton faculty working on East Asian topics to organize conferences and workshops showcasing collaborative research. Six new projects were selected for funding in the first round.
EAS PROJECTS

Martin Kern (East Asian Studies) and Ping Wang (East Asian Studies): Genre and Tradition in Early Medieval China (2008).

Funding from the Mercer Trust will be used to facilitate a two-day workshop, “Genre and Tradition in Early Medieval China” in early Fall 2008. The workshop is a follow-up meeting to an “Exploratory Seminar” under the same title, supported by the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS), held on May 3-4, 2008. The workshop is also a precursor to a larger international conference to be held in the spring or fall of 2009, possibly at the new Humanities Institute at Fudan University in Shanghai. The group includes ten scholars, including four colleagues from China and Japan and four others from the United States. The project asks how the Chinese literary tradition was formed in the early medieval period, that is, roughly, the first seven centuries CE. So far, scholarly attention has focused on the final results of this extended process, such as the historical-critical treatise Wenxin diaolong (The Literary Mind and the Carving of Dragons) from ca. 501 and the magnificent literary anthology Wenxuan (Selections of Refined Literature) from ca. 525. Still missing, however, is a thorough reflection on the historical processes from which these massive works—and with them the literary tradition as we know it—then emerged. The group will help to fill this critical gap by exploring both the conceptual issues and historical contingencies in the formation of the tradition. A second goal of the project, built into the design of the group’s meetings in both the U.S. and China, is to develop an international collaboration conducted in the Chinese language.


The project brings together multiple strands of an emerging perspective in the social sciences and East Asian studies in search of a synthesis. Some analysts have focused on historical memory to gain insight into national identities. Others have looked at strategic thinking and the concerns of national security. Participants in the project will use these concepts and others to rethink the way that concepts of national identity are conceptualized in the study of China, Korea, and Japan. In the first phase of this project, funded by PIIRS, participants will meet in an exploratory seminar in Tokyo. For the second phase, which will take place in 2009, support from the Mercer Trust funding from the Program in East Asian Studies will be used to bring project participants to Princeton for short research visits, mini-seminars, and workshops. A possible third phase of the project in 2009 or 2010 will be a final meeting of the group in South Korea, hopefully to be funded by the Korea Foundation.


Mercer Trust conference and workshop support will go toward three separate but overlapping areas for this research cluster. The areas are organized together and will receive major additional funding from other sources as a unit. The Mercer Trust will support Professor Dieter Kuhn’s visit to Princeton in spring 2010, as well as the research cluster in 2010-11 and 2011-12. For the first stage in 2009-10, PIIRS will fund exploratory planning sessions at the University involving ten or more scholars worldwide to think creatively about the most effective sorts of collaborations and catalysts that would kindle these selected topics. A series of follow-up workshops at Princeton, including visiting lecturers and presentations at research seminars, will be organized during spring semester of the second year (2010-11). During the third year (2011-12), the cluster’s findings will be presented to the Princeton academic community in the form of a final set of workshops and seminars; they will be funded jointly by PIIRS and the Program in East Asian Studies.

Stephen F. Teiser (Religion): Buddhism and Indigenous Cultures along the Silk Road.

While scholars of art and scholars of texts have long utilized Dunhuang materials to advance the study of Buddhism, their work has progressed largely along parallel, independent lines. This long-term project brings together scholars working from different disciplinary perspectives for a series of workshops and mini-seminars at Princeton. Although the focus will be western China and its environs (especially the areas of modern Sichuan, Gansu, Tibet, and Xinjiang), the project also recognizes the fluid boundaries between the Chinese world and other cultures of the medieval period. The first workshop, jointly funded by the Mercer
Future Projects:

After wide-ranging discussions among the members of the Program Committee in East Asian Studies, whose members are drawn from departments ranging from Art and Archaeology to Religion, East Asian Studies, History, Sociology, and Politics, the Program has affirmed the crucial role that current funding from the Mercer Trust plays in the intellectual life of the University and in the research agendas of its faculty working on China, Japan, and Korea. We believe that collaborative research with colleagues from other institutions, and particularly projects undertaken jointly with colleagues from abroad, will be essential in the next decades. These opportunities are increasingly important to pursue but remain underfunded both by the University and by outside sources. Because of the budget crisis at Princeton,

Faculty Research

Robert Bagley’s article “Interpreting Prehistoric Designs,” a critique of Ernst Gombrich’s Sense of Order, appeared last year in a Warburg Institute Colloquium volume entitled Iconography without Texts. (In June 2009 he delivered a paper entitled “Gombrich among the Egyptians” at another Warburg colloquium, this one in honor of Gombrich’s centenary.) An article entitled “Anyang Mold-making and the Decorated Model,” on the methods used to execute the decoration of Shang bronzes, will appear shortly in the 2009 volume of Artibus Asiae. In April of 2010 he will give a keynote lecture on the origin of the chromatic scale at an international conference on East Asian music at the University of Hong Kong. On the back burner, and likely to stay there for a while, is a paper on the archaeology of the mandate of heaven. In the fall semester of 2009-2010 Bagley will offer an introduction to ancient Chinese archaeology and a freshman seminar on metals in art; in the spring he will offer a 400-level seminar on ornament (worldwide) and a graduate seminar on the archaeology of ancient Chinese music and music theory.

Patrick Caddeau is currently working on a study of bunraku theater and its function in promoting nationalism from the Meiji to early Shôwa periods in Japan.

Chih- ping Chou: During my sabbatical year, I plan to concentrated my study on the rise of Esperanto movement in the early twentieth century China. Esperanto was an artificial language invented by Dr. L. L. Zamenhof in 1887, and it was introduced to China in the 1910’s by overseas Chinese students in France. Within a relatively short period of time, Esperanto became very popular among the Chinese intellectuals, leading scholars such as Cai Yuanpei, Chen Duxiu, Lu Xun and Qian Xuantong all endorsed this movement and promoted Esperanto as a solution to the reforms of Chinese language. My study will analyze the historical background of this movement from an intellectual history perspective, and to demonstrate that the motivation behind the Esperanto movement was a national feeling of urgency combined with a strong desire to bring China into the international stage.

Ben Elman: During the summers of both 2008 and 2009, my research in first Taiwan and then China was sponsored by a Distinguished Scholar Fellowship from the Chiang Ching Kuo Foundation in Taiwan. I was able to complete a draft for a lengthy chapter prepared for The Cambridge History of China, Volume 9, Part 2: Early Ch‘ing, edited by Willard Peterson (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, forthcoming), entitled “Commerce in Classics: Sino-Japanese Cultural Exchanges in the Eighteenth Century,” which is part of an ongoing book project entitled “Bracketing [Modernity]: Reconsidering Sino-Japanese Cultural History, 1700-1850.” Another essay for this project was published under the title “One Classic and Two Classical Traditions: The Recovery and Transmission of a Lost Edition of the Analects,” Monumenta Nipponica 64, 1 (Spring 2009): 53-82. During summer 2009, I also continued my teaching and research at Fudan University in the Advanced Institute for Humanistic Studies as the Changjiang Visiting Chair Professor in Chinese Studies. I organized a research seminar and lecture series for Chinese advanced graduate students and post-doctoral fellows on the theme of “Classical Learning and Ming-Qing Cultural History.” In addition, I organized at Fudan a workshop on “New Directions in the Cultural History of Republican China,” which included a paper by Wayne Soon on “Science and the Ordering of the Homelands, Lim Boon Keng and the Overseas Chinese, 1890 to 1937” In addition to Wayne, a Princeton History Department Graduate Student, Ori Sela, a graduate student in the EAS Department came to Fudan this
Tom Hare is spending the summer preparing a new course on portraiture that will touch on East Asian portraits in the form of Song dingshiang and their Muromachi counterparts, chinsō portraits. The course has some relevance to his research, too, in that he is planning a book on ethics and performance in Buddhist Japan in which Zen portraiture and other types of painting in 15th century Zen contexts will figure prominently.

David Howell recently published an article on the circulation and use of firearms in the Japanese countryside, entitled “The Social Life of Firearms in Tokugawa Japan,” in the journal Japanese Studies (May 2009). An article on women’s hairstyle reform in the 1880s, “The Girl with the Horse-dung Hairdo,” will be appearing very soon in Looking Modern: East Asian Visual Culture from the Treaty Ports to World War II, edited by Hans Thomsen and Jennifer Purtle (Chicago: Center for the Arts of East Asia at The University of Chicago and Art Media Resources, Inc.). Also scheduled to appear in the summer of 2009 is a book he co-edited with Kawanishi Hidemichi and Namikawa Kenji, entitled Shōhenshi kara zentai shi: Chiiki to bunka [From peripheral history to holistic history: Region and culture], published by Seibunšō. In the coming months Howell will be working on three projects: the first is an essay, “Fecal Matters,” which explores the history of human excrement—as a resource, a commodity, and a drug—in early modern Japan. The second is an essay on the local and global historical contexts of the Meiji Restoration, to be published in Japanese next year in a new series of twelve volumes on the Restoration. Finally, with colleagues Benjamin Elman and Susan Naquin, he is participating in a three-year project on early modern East Asian history.

Martin Kern has published several essays in English and Chinese over the past academic year: “Xi-Han meixue yu full de qiyuan” [Western Han Aesthetics and the Genesis of the Genre of the Fu], Zhuzhi chenghui: Fudan wenshi jiangtan (2009); 1-18; “Bronze inscriptions, the Shangshu, and the Shijing: The Evolution of the Ancestral Sacrifice during the Western Zhou,” in Early Chinese Religion, Part One: Shang Through Han (1250 BC to 220 AD), ed. John Lagerwey and Marc Kalinowski (Leiden: Brill, 2009), pp. 143-200; “Yinju yu Zhongguo gudai xieben wenxian zhong de rujia jingdian: ‘Ziyi’ yanjiu” [Quotation and the Confucian Canon in Early Chinese Manuscripts: A Study of the ‘Zi yi’], Jianbo yanjiu 2005 [2008]: 7-29; “Announcements from the Montains: The Stele Inscriptions of the Qin First Emperor,” in Concelving the Empire: China and Rome Compared, ed. Fritz-Heiner Mutschler and Achim Mittag (Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2008), pp. 217-240; “Beyond the Mao Odes: Shijing Reception in Early Medieval China,” Journal of the American Oriental Society 127 (2007): 131-142. In addition, he presented public lectures and conference papers on a range of subjects: on Wang Xizhi’s “Xìngràngtìe” calligraphy scroll at Harvard University and Yale University (April 2009); on the reception of the Shijing in early and medieval China at Stanford University (October 2008) and Hong Kong Baptist University (April 2009); on the composition and performance of the “Yaolüe” chapter of the Huainanzi at the University of California at Berkeley (October 2008), the University of California at Santa Barbara (October 2008), Columbia University (November 2008), Peking University (November 2008), National Taiwan University (November 2008), and City University of Hong Kong (March 2009); on space and aesthetics in the Western Zhou ancestral sacrifi ce at the University of California at Los Angeles (October 2008); on the Qin First Emperor’s mountain inscriptions at the Bowers Museum, Santa Ana (October 2008); on the study of China as a new academic challenge at the German Merit Foundation (September 2008); and on late Six Dynasties efforts of literary canonization at Princeton University (September 2008). Among his works currently in print are the edited volume (with Benjamin A. Elman) Statecraft and Classical Learning: The Rituals of Zhou in East Asian History (Leiden: Brill, forthcoming 2009); Chapter One of the Cambridge History of Chinese Literature (forthcoming 2009); essays on Shijing and Huainanzi in both Chinese and English; a history and state-of-the-field survey of North American scholarship on early Chinese literature (in Chinese); and an essay on the institution of writing in pre-imperial China in Statecraft and Classical Learning. In the final stage of proofreading is a Chinese collection of Kern’s essays Zaoqi Zhongguo de shuxie, shige he wenhua jiyi [Writing, Poetry, and Cultural Memory in Early China] that is forthcoming from Sanlian Publishers in Beijing. In October 2009, Kern will host the first of two conferences in preparation of a Handbook Reading Early Chinese Manuscripts: Texts, Contexts, Methods, that will be co-edited with Wolfgang Behr (Zurich University) and Dirk Meyer (Oxford University) and published by Brill in Leiden. Other current projects include his monograph titled Poetry, Performance and Cultural Memory in Early China and, in May 2010, the inaugural M. I. Rostovtzeff Lectures at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York University (a series of four lectures subsequently to be published by Princeton University Press). Kern also
Ping Wang is currently working on a study of bunraku theater and its function in promoting nationalism from the Meiji to early Shōwa periods in Japan.

Lynn White, who teaches in the Woodrow Wilson School and Politics Department but is also a member of the EAS Program Committee and an associated faculty member in the EAS Department, has published a book and completed two articles in the past year. White has also completed an article called “Chinese Constitutional Currents,” to be published in the journal “Modern China”. It shows that the Chinese constitution-in-action is far more flexible than the written state charter suggests. Even the Communist Party Constitution, which is a more important document, omits mentioning many of the norms that are now firmly legitimated to determine successes, federal or unitary structures, and other standard constitutional questions. The “Journal of Chinese Political Science” is publishing a state-of-the-field article by White that stresses the recent contributions of PRC-born political scientists, especially from the Cultural Revolution generation that came to Western academic institutions after receiving B.A. degrees in China in the early 1980s. For Princeton it is of interest that a high proportion of those who now hold tenured jobs (for example, Li Cheng, Yang Dali, Kate Xiao Zhou, Zheng Yongnian, Wang Hongying, Peng Dajin, Wu Guoquang) have Princeton doctorates in Politics or the Wilson School. They have succeeded in career terms despite the epistemological parochialism of American political science. Along with other students of Chinese politics, they have kept social study of that country well-grounded.

Robert Bagley: Max Loehr and the Study of Chinese Bronzes Style and Classification in the History of Art Max Loehr (1903-1988), the most distinguished historian of Chinese art of his generation, is celebrated above all for a 1953 art historical study of Chinese bronzes that effectively predicted discoveries Chinese archaeologists were about to make. Those discoveries overthrew the theories of Loehr’s great rival Bernhard Karlgren (1889-1978), a Swedish sinologue whose apparently scientific use of classification and statistics had long dominated Western studies of the bronzes. Revisiting a controversy that was ended by archaeology before the issues at stake were fully understood, Robert Bagley shows its methodological implications to be profound. Starting with a close reading of the work of Karlgren, he uses an analogy with biological taxonomy to clarify questions of method and to distinguish between science and the appearance of science. Then, turning to Loehr, he provides the rationale for an art history that is concerned above all with constructing a meaningful history of creative events, one that sees the intentionality of designers and patrons as the driving force behind stylistic change. In a concluding chapter he analyzes the concept of style, arguing that many classic confusions in art historical theorizing arise from a failure to recognize that style is not a property of objects. Addressed not just to historians of Chinese art, this book uses Loehr’s work on bronzes as a case study for exploring central issues of art history. It will be of interest to anyone concerned with the analysis of visual materials.

Faculty Bookshelf


Ben Elman: A paperback edition of A Cultural History of Modern Science in China (Harvard University Press, New Histories of Science, Medicine, and Technology Series, 2006) was issued in spring 2009. In addition, a translation into Chinese came out from Shanghai Guji chuban she (Shanghai Chinese Classics Publishing House) in August 2009. A collection of essays entitled Classicism, Examinations, and Cultural History: Collected Essays were translated from English into Chinese and have been published in Shanghai by Zhonghua shuju in September 2009.

Martin Kern: Reading Early Chinese Manuscripts: Texts, Contexts, Methods. Together with Dr. Dirk Meyer (University Lecturer in Chinese Philosophy at Oxford University) and Prof. Wolfgang Behr (Professor and Chair of Classical Chinese at the University of Zurich), Martin Kern is organizing the preparation and publication of a massive reference work titled Reading Early Chinese Manuscripts: Texts, Contexts, Methods that involves eleven specialists from institutions in China, Europe, and the United States. The project, funded in equal parts by the East Asian Studies Program and the Gardner Fund in Princeton’s Humanities Council, includes two conferences current projects include his monograph titled Poetry, Performance and Cultural Memory in Early China and, in May 2010, the inaugural M. I. Rostovtzeff Lectures at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, New York
need this book — as will students of the West whose methods have become parochial. Students and scholars of Asia will all
always non-state local power affects elections. By considering the effects on fair justice of local money and power
are surprisingly easy to buy with corrupt money from government contracts. Liberals should pay more serious theo
have contributed to socio-political problems that are also obvious in Leninist or junta regimes, because elections
in the four places under consideration. Violence has been common in these polities, along with money. Elections
economic. Specifically, it pays attention to local, not just national, power networks that caused or prevented growth
Lynn White: Political Booms: Local Money and Power in Taiwan, East China, Thailand, and the Philippines. This
book, unlike most previous studies, shows that both the roots and results of growth are largely political rather than
economic. Specifically, it pays attention to local, not just national, power networks that caused or prevented growth
in the four places under consideration. Violence has been common in these polities, along with money. Elections
have contributed to socio-political problems that are also obvious in Leninist or junta regimes, because elections
are surprisingly easy to buy with corrupt money from government contracts. Liberals should pay more serious theo
retical attention to the effects of money on justice, and Western political science should focus more clearly on the

Jerome Silbergild: Body in Question: Image and Illusion in Two Chinese Films by Director Jiang Wen. Princ-
eton: Princeton University Press. Body in Question is the first book to thoroughly examine these groundbreaking
works and one of the first books in English to study individual Chinese films in depth. These two award-winning
films, by renowned director-actor Jiang Wen and cinematographer Gu Changwei, are unsurpassed in China for
their exquisite attention to realistic detail and their razor-like commentary on contemporary China. In scenes that
range from hilarious to horrific, China’s ruling elite and its complicated relationship with Japan are subjected to the
filmmakers’ ironic treatment and profound concern with social justice. After sweeping the Golden Rooster Awards
for Chinese-language film, In the Heat of the Sun was suppressed by the government, and Devils on the Doorstep,
which won the Jury Grand Prize at Cannes, was permanently banned. This book uses cinema and photography,
political history, anthropology and philosophy, Chinese rhetorical traditions, and concepts of justice to explore the
films’ visual complexity and intellectual force. An accompanying DVD includes major clips from both films. Outside
In: Chinese x American x Contemporary Art. New Haven: Yale University Press. In the past decade, contemporary
Chinese art has become the darling of the international art market. This thought-provoking book argues, however,
that American audiences have been exposed only to a narrow range of what is actually “contemporary” – a term
that critics have used not to mean “recent” or “living artists” and limited to artists and art that is ant-traditional,
avant-garde, or politically dissident. Outside In discusses contemporary Chinese art in a far wider range of styles
and subject matter and substantially expands on our understanding of this work. Moreover, this popularity was
triggered by Chinese artists unable to work comfortably in China and who emigrated in pursuit of their artistic goals,
becoming involved in international production and marketing. This book features six artists - Arnold Chang, Van-
nessa Tran, Qiu Mai (Michael Cherney), Zhi Lin, Liu Dan, and Zhang Hongtu – who are widely diverse in style and
media, age and experience, as well as geographical and ethnic origins, and all of whom are American citizens so
that all of this work is also “American art.” With supplementary essays by Cary Liu, Dora Ching, Kimberly Wishart,
Michelle Lim, and Gregory Seifert.

Stephen F. Teiser: Readings of the Lotus Sutra (Columbia University Press, 2009), co-edited with Jacqueline
I. Stone, is designed to open up the most popular scripture of Mahayana Buddhism to first-time readers. The book
presents newly commissioned essays by the leading scholars in the field, discussing the Indian Buddhist back-
ground of the text, exploring its philosophy and mythology, and tracing its influence on the cultures of China, Korea,
and Japan. In 2009-2010 he is on research leave, funded by a Distinguished Fellowship from the Chiang Ching-
kuo Foundation, studying medieval Chinese Buddhist liturgical manuscripts.

Atsuko Ueda Natsume Soseki, Theory of Literature and Other Critical Writings, edited by Michael Bourdaghgs,
Atsuko Ueda, and Joseph A. Murphy. Natsume Soseki, widely held to be Japan’s greatest modern novelist, in fact
began his career as a literary theorist and scholar of English literature. In 1907, he published Theory of Literature,
a remarkably forward-thinking attempt to understand how and why we read. Soseki would later critique Theory of
Literature as an unfinished work, but the text remains an unprecedented achievement, anticipating by decades the
ideas and concepts that would form the critical foundations of formalism, structuralism, reader-response theory,
cognitive science, and postcolonialism. Employing the cutting-edge approaches of contemporary psychology and
sociology, Soseki created a model for studying the conscious experience of reading, as well as a theory for how the
process changes over time and across cultures. By insisting that literary taste is socially and historically deter-
mined, Soseki was able to challenge the superiority of the Western canon, and by grounding his theory in scientific
knowledge, he was able to claim a universal validity. Along with Theory of Literature, this volume reproduces a
later series of lectures and essays in which Soseki continued to develop his theories—some of which have never
before been translated into English. In addition, the editors of the book provide a critical introduction contextualizing
Soseki’s theoretical project in history and exploring its contemporary legacy.

Lynn White: Political Booms: Local Money and Power in Taiwan, East China, Thailand, and the Philippines. This
book, unlike most previous studies, shows that both the roots and results of growth are largely political rather than
economic. Specifically, it pays attention to local, not just national, power networks that caused or prevented growth
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ways non-state local power affects elections. By considering the effects on fair justice of local money and power
(largely from small- and medium-sized firms that emerge after agrarian reforms), this book asks democrats to face
squarely the extent to which electoral procedures fail to help ordinary citizens. Students and scholars of Asia will all
need this book — as will students of the West whose methods have become parochial. Politics of Modern China,
Edited by Yongnian Zheng, Yiyi Lu, Lynn T. White III. After nearly three decades of rapid economic development, China is now a major power whose actions can significantly affect other countries, from America to Zimbabwe. As a result, China Studies has grown exponentially. In particular, there is a growing interest in studies of Chinese politics, not least because of the considerable uncertainties that remain over the country’s future political direction.

Faculty on Leave
2008-2009

Janet Chen: Spent the 2008-09 academic year on sabbatical leave, with support from the American Council of Learned Societies and the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation. She spent the year finishing her book manuscript, titled “Guilty of Indigence: The Urban Poor in China, 1900 1953.” Chen also presented talks based on her research at Harvard’s Fairbank Center, Cornell, and the Modern China Seminar at Columbia.

Atsuko Ueda: After her publication of Concealment of Politics, Politics of Concealment (Stanford University Press, 2007), Atsuko Ueda has begun her next book project on the linguistic reform movements of the Meiji period (1868-1912). While on leave during the 2008-2009 academic year, She devoted herself to the study of these reforms as she sought to unravel the multifaceted views of language that shape the early Meiji period. She wrote an article entitled “Voices of Language: Orthographic Reforms in early Meiji Japan”—which would be the first chapter of the book—examining the different views of language inscribed in many arguments for orthographic reform (whether it be the use of the Roman alphabet or hiragana). She further completed another chapter that focused on the realm of zoku (typically translated as the “vernacular”) which examined the complex aesthetic site in which prose and poetry intersected in the late 1880s and 1890s. Her work in these reforms supplement that of her article “Sound, Scripts, and Styles: Kanbun kundokutai and National Language Reform of 1880s Japan,” which was published Review of Japanese Culture and Society in February 2009. Ueda also finished editing the proceedings volume for the annual meeting of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies entitled Literature and Literary Theory (co-edited with Richard Okada), which was published in the February 2009. She has also worked on the theoretical works of Natsume Sōseki, widely celebrated as Japan’s best modern novelist. She has been involved in publishing his critical works, which was published from Columbia University Press in February 2009 (entitled Theory of Literature and Other Critical Writings of Natsume Sōseki, translated and edited with Michael Bourdaghs and Joseph Murphy).

Joy Kim
Willard Peterson

Faculty on Leave
2009-2010

Chih-p’ing Chou: During my sabbatical year, I plan to concentrate my study on the rise of Esperanto movement in the early twentieth century China. Esperanto was an artificial language invented by Dr. L. L. Zamenhof in 1887, and it was introduced to China in the 1910’s by overseas Chinese students in France. Within a relatively short period of time, Esperanto became very popular among the Chinese intellectuals, leading scholars such as Cai Yuanpei, Chen Duxiu, Lu Xun and Qian Xuantong all endorsed this movement and promoted Esperanto as a solution to the reforms of Chinese language. My study will analyze the historical background of this movement from an intellectual history perspective, and to demonstrate that the motivation behind the Esperanto movement was a national feeling of urgency combined with a strong desire to bring China into the international stage.

Steven Chung: Will spend most of his research leave in Korea completing his first book, tentatively entitled “The Split Screen: Sin Sang-ok and Postwar Korean Film Cultures.” He will also begin work on a new project examining Korean and American wartime propaganda and ethnographic films.

Sheldon Garon: I’ll be on leave the entire academic year. I will be a fellow at the Woodrow Wilson Center in Washington DC. I’ll be working on a new book project, HOME FRONTS: A TRANSNATIONAL STUDY OF JAPAN, GERMANY, BRITAIN, AND THE UNITED STATES IN WORLD WAR II. Here’s a summary: This transnational study would be the first book to compare home fronts in four key belligerents. Total war introduced common challenges of mobilizing civilians as never before, and each nation studied the techniques of allies and enemies alike. I compare civilian morale, standards of living, sacrifice, organizing local life, air raids, and the home fronts’ impact on the postwar world.
Sue Naquin will be on leave, mostly in Princeton, writing a book on religion and material culture in Ching during the Ming and Qing.

Stephen Teiser: In 2009-2010 he is on research leave, funded by a Distinguished Fellowship from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation, studying medieval Chinese Buddhist liturgicalliturgical foundations.

Ping Wang: Will be working on her book manuscript, The Other Palace of the Liang (502-557)—Literary and Political Thought of Crown Prince Xiao Tong. The Six Dynasties (220-589) is a fascinating period in Chinese literary history. It was during this time that the classical literary tradition first came into formation, with the emergence of a new genre called shi or “lyric poetry.” In addition, the pattern in which the self-reflexive literary history would be constructed came into shape in the hermeneutical discourse of this period. The Wen xuan, a monumental work of the Liang, compiled by Crown Prince Xiao Tong in the early years of the sixth century, to a large extent is a pinnacle of this development. So far, much attention has been given to the impact of this oldest extant anthology on the subsequent ages in Chinese history. Still missing, however, is a thorough examination of the critical, historical and political context from which this massive work emerged. This book project is an attempt to do just that through contextualizing events surrounding its compilation, interpreting the structure of the work, and unveiling the public and private motives of its compiler(s).

Sue-Jean Lee Suettinger ’70: Has been a management consultant for most of her professional career, specializing in strategic planning, international trade and investment, market entry strategies, organizational review and assessment, and cost analysis. Among other responsibilities at Coopers & Lybrand prior to its merger with Price Waterhouse, she was director of China services in the firm’s international directorate. Her corporate experience also included positions with The Chase Manhattan Bank and The US-China Business Council. She currently teaches Chinese language at the Maret School in Washington, DC and tutors students from DC and Maryland schools. Sue-Jean attended Princeton her junior year as a Critical Languages student from the City College of New York. When the University accepted women in 1969, she transferred into the class of ’70 and received an A.B. in East Asian Studies, with concentration in Chinese language and literature.

Tom Gorman’73: I have lived in Hong Kong since 1974 and been a frequent traveller in China since 1975, the year in which I started my publishing company. In more recent years I have divided my time between Hong Kong and Beijing. We publish the Chinese edition of FORTUNE Magazine under license from Time Inc. , in print and on line. We have offices in Hong Kong, Beijing, and Shanghai.

Peter Lighte, PhD, ’81: Currently in Beijing as chairman of JPMorgan chase bank china, with one more year to go. Although a frequent visitor to China over the years, I had not lived here since ’82-’85. At the end of my current stint, will be returning to America, where I have not lived since ’82 (career split between Asia and London), and settling in Princeton.

Greg Zeluck’85: 1985 - 1997: at Lehman Brothers in investment banking, four years of which were in Hong Kong, mostly covering Taiwan. 1997 - 1998: a brief stint at Merrill Lynch in investment banking, located in Hong Kong 1998 to today: with the Carlyle Group, principally focused on making investments in Taiwan, and through Taiwan, in China. My wife, Joanna I-jung Liu, is from Taiwan (National Taiwan University, law degree). Three children: two girls and then a boy: our eldest daughter is a junior at Colgate, second daughter a freshman at Princeton. We currently live in Hong Kong, but I spend most of every week abroad doing business.

Nicky Fritz ’87: I went to Wuhan in 1987, the year I graduated undergrad and taught English for the summer at the Wuhan Post and Telecommunication institute. Spent 10 years on Wall Street before pausing my career to raise two children. Last year resumed work and am currently with LIM Advisors, a Hong Kong-based hedge fund, working in their Stamford, CT office. Last summer I met up with my junior year roommate Mary Foster’87 who was also an EastAsian Studies major (both Japanese and Chinese) in Tokyo for dinner. It was wonderful to see her, I think we had not seen each other since graduation.
Andrea Sidney Anderson-Ribadeneira Thomas ‘89: I am now teaching 4th, 5th and 6th grade Chinese at a small private school in High Point, NC. I tutor children ages 4-7 at home as well. I love the growing interest in Chinese for children!

Tanya Lee ‘90: With an AB degree in East Asian Studies plus the Five-Year East Asian Studies certificate for an additional year’s study at International Christian University in Tokyo, Japan. Three years later I earned a graduate certificate in Japanese from Cornell’s FALCON program and participated in a summer study/homestay program at Hokkaido University in Sapporo, Japan following the Cornell program. I worked at a civil and women’s rights organization after that, and eventually went on to earn my law degree from Howard University. After clerking for a judge on the US Court of Appeals, Sixth Circuit, I spent five years as in-house Counsel with The Procter & Gamble Company (including a 5 month international assignment in Paris, France). I relocated to Phoenix, Arizona and began working as a corporate immigration attorney, and launched my own boutique immigration firm a few months ago. I am active in the local Princeton alumni chapter and interview undergrad applicants for the university. I went back to reunions this past June for the first time in nearly 20 years! Personally, I met and eventually married a man I met in Senegal (West Africa) and I emigrated him to the US (hence the exposure to immigration law). We have a three-year old daughter.

Janet Ikeda (‘93 Ph.D.): Currently I serve as Associate Dean of the College at Washington and Lee University and was recently elected as the next president of the Association of Teachers of Japanese.

Micah Burch ‘95: I believe my last update was that I was teaching tax law as a professor at NYU law. I will do so again for the first semester of the new school year and then, in the new calendar year, I will join the faculty of the University of Sydney (Australia) Law School. Let me know if you want more info.

Desmond So ‘97: Desmond is a presenter on a lifestyle and luxury-living show called “Dolce Vita”, broadcast in Hong Kong and other parts of Asia. He is also the Founder & Chief Consultant of Not Just The Right Fork (www.njtrf.com), a consulting company that helps individuals and businesses in Asia improve confidence through the practice of etiquette. Who would ever imagine that of everything that he learned at Princeton, it’s the language component that is now coming in the most handy?

Brett Dakin ‘98: Lives in New York City, where he recently joined Columbia Law School as a research fellow after nearly four years at the law firm of Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton. The fourth edition of his book, Another Quiet American: Stories of Life in Laos (Asia Books, 2003) was recently released. He was happy to be back at Princeton in April 2009 as Chair of the East Asian Studies Advisory Council.

Erin Currin: ‘98: I taught English in China with PIA. I moved back to Seattle in 2003, where I grew up. I graduated from the University of Washington of medical school in 2008, and am now a resident in the UW Internal Medicine program. I got married this year to an anesthesia resident also at UW.

David Mitchell ‘99: I’m the director of international operations for Kronos, a $720M enterprise software company based near Boston, MA. In this role, I oversee all Kronos operations outside of North America, with a current focus on launching operations in India and China and managing a new acquisition in Europe. I usually travel to China every 8-10 weeks, so it’s been a great opportunity to keep up (and improve) my Chinese speaking skills. I also have a very confused 2-year old - confused because she only hears Chinese at home and English at pre-school, so she currently speaks perfect Chinglish.

Marta Porwit ‘99: Still living in Sunnyvale, California. I have two kids - Kinga, who is 2 years old and Tomasz, just 6 months. I finished law school at Berkeley (Boalt Hall) in May of this year, and now am taking it easy until I start work in San Francisco in January 2010.

Alex Green:’00: I am working as in-house counsel at Aircastle, an aircraft leasing company based in Stamford, Connecticut. I travel to Asia periodically on business, and enjoy the opportunity to practice my otherwise rusty language skills. I live in Manhattan with my wife Sarah (’00), daughter Georgia (2) and son Henry (8 months).

Erica Brindley’93 & ‘02: I am now an assistant professor of ancient Chinese intellectual history at Penn State University.
Brad Wood ‘03: When I graduated I joined a small company called Clear Horizons which specialized in research-based marketing insights and strategies, particularly for consumer electronics companies. I was made a partner of Clear Horizons after 5 years with the company and this year (’09) we were acquired by a U.K. company, YouGov. While YouGov specializes in political polling, we were acquired for the sake of expanding into new consumer-focused channels in the U.S. On the EAS front, we continue to work closely with East Asian consumer electronics companies, particularly Japanese, which gives me the occasional opportunity to flex my Japanese language muscles. From a personal standpoint, I am still married to the same wonderful woman and we are still living in Yardley, PA. Not much change there.

Evan Thorpe ‘05: I am currently Director, Greater China Business Development for consulting firm Win Win International and after 4 years in Washington DC, I am moving back to my hometown of Hong Kong with my wife Kathy Thorpe (Li) class of ’05.

Chris Sedgwick ‘07: For 2008-2009, I worked at the Asia Society, a nonprofit organization in New York. I’ve since been investigating the Foreign Service and am always interested in hearing about new opportunities to use Japanese in my work, whether in the US or abroad.

Maya Yamato ‘07: and is now a third year Ph.D. student in the MIT-WHOI (Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution) Joint Program in Biological Oceanography. Her research is on the auditory systems of baleen whales. Marine mammals rely on their sense of hearing for critical activities such as communication and navigation; therefore, there has been increasing concern that man-made noise in our oceans may be seriously affecting their survival. Baleen whales are particularly vulnerable because many populations are already endangered from whaling. Yet, it is difficult to create protective legislation at this time because very little is known about how their auditory system works, or what kinds of sounds they can hear. Maya is studying baleen whale hearing using multiple approaches including computerized tomography (CT), dissection, and histology.
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