COVER: The wooden doors to 202 Jones. Photo taken by Martin Kern.
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Director’s Letter, 2019-20

In normal years, the Director’s Letter is a retrospective of the year in East Asian Studies—but where to begin? Annual disasters and upheavals are standard topics in traditional East Asian chronicles. By June of 2020 (a gengzi 庚子 year), we had already lived through more than our share: the coronavirus pandemic, severe economic downturn, government inaction and prevarication, Princeton’s shift to online teaching, dislocation of undergraduate and graduate life, shuttering of libraries and labs, disruption to travel, study, and research for students, staff, and faculty, the brutal murder of George Floyd, and the international renaissance of the Black Lives Matter movement.

This spring semester, the usual hum of summer programming and plans for next academic year grew quiet, and many EAS projects were cancelled, postponed, shifted online, or put on hold. As this Annual Report goes to press, plans for undergraduate residence on campus and the format for classes in fall of 2020 are still being deliberated. Several programs were cancelled out of an abundance of caution, including the Global Seminar in Contemporary Chinese Society, the Peking Opera Immersion Program in Shanghai, more than 40 research and language-study projects abroad planned by PhD students, and fieldwork expeditions for the network in Buddhist studies (From the Ground Up: Buddhism and East Asian Religions, FROGBEAR) planned for Sichuan, Zhejiang, and Vietnam.

I’ve been really impressed by the resilience and resourcefulness of the East Asian Studies community amid the tumult. Princeton’s Class of 2020—whose emotions reached their natural peak just before Spring Break—bore the University directive to return home with unusual grace. Seniors were particularly creative in figuring out new ways to complete their independent projects and to engage in modified rites of passage. Our international students, some of whom were stranded abroad as early as February, plowed ahead with their work and negotiated the uncertainties of international travel and visa complications. Our library staff spent countless hours engineering access to electronic versions of books and articles we always took for granted in print form. Princeton’s administrative staff produced moving Zoom tributes and graduation ceremonies. Our technicians guided us through new media for staying happily connected. And faculty adjusted to the new normal and excelled, whether reconceptualizing courses for distance learning, inventing new ways to invigorate campus intellectual life, completing book manuscripts, or starting new projects. The heaviest burden, no doubt, fell on our language instructors. The faculty in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean innovated non-stop to insure that, in the era of Zoom, students would remain fully engaged in all four language skills of speaking, listening, reading, and writing.

The 39 seniors in the class of 2020 who enrolled in East Asian Studies pursued many interests, combining breadth of study with a solid foundation in the languages of East Asia. 12 majors in the East Asian Studies Department together with 27 certificate students (in both Department and Program) worked in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages and produced independent work covering nearly every time, place, and disciplinary approach to East Asia. The media they researched included popular film and documentaries, newspapers and magazines, science fiction, anime, blogs, social media, computer games, fashion, drama, novels, short stories, philosophical texts, historical documents, popular visual culture, architecture, and traditional painting. The titles of their independent work (detailed below) demonstrate the wealth of subjects they investigated, ranging from supply chains for medical and personal protective equipment used against the coronavirus, to morality and documentary filmmaking, contemporary social ills, public trust of the media, the development of artificial intelligence techniques for creating and interpreting painting, international relations, comparative philosophy, intercultural exchange, the ethnography of performance, and the politics of eating. Certificate students hailed from fifteen departments in all four divisions of the university, including Architecture, Astrophysics, Comparative Literature, Computer Science, Economics, Electrical Engineering, English, Geosciences, History, Mathematics, Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering,
The study of language remains the foundation of East Asian Studies at Princeton. In 2019-20, Princeton students enrolled in more than 800 semesters of language courses in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean—perhaps a new record, and undoubtedly a sign of massive student interest in the serious study of East Asia. Support from the East Asian Studies Program and other university sources enabled more than 100 students to attend intensive language programs over the summer of 2019, including Princeton-in-Beijing, Princeton-in-Ishikawa, and Yonsei University. In the span of two months, through 20 or more classroom hours per week, these intensive programs provide the equivalent of one academic year of language instruction.

Support for PhD students is one of the core missions of East Asian Studies. For the summer of 2019, the East Asian Studies Program joined the Princeton Institute for International and Regional Studies (PIIRS), the Center on Contemporary China (CCC), the Buddhist Studies Workshop, and other University funders to support more than 30 students pursuing language study, pre-dissertation research, and dissertation research. They worked in the usual places in East Asia (including China, Japan, Korea, Singapore, and Taiwan) as well as Myanmar, Austria, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and Spain. Recognizing the extra burdens of language study for PhD students in the field, in 2019-20 the East Asian Studies Program also provided a sixth year of funding to eight PhD students who demonstrated significant progress in completing their dissertations. Such funding constitutes the largest portion of the disposable EAS Program budget, even as broader University support for sixth-year funding (by the Graduate School, PIIRS, and some departments) continues to grow as well.

Lectures, performances, and conferences were a vital part of East Asian Studies in 2019-20. Prior to the suspension of on-campus events two months before the end of the academic year, our calendar was already overflowing, as the listing of events in this report demonstrates. Of particular note were the cluster of activities related to the four-month special exhibition curated by Zoe S. Kwok (*13), Associate Curator of Asian art at the Princeton University Art Museum, October 2019-February 2020. The exhibition focused on a rare group of surviving paintings from medieval China, along with ceramic, lacquer, metal, and stone objects as well as textiles. In addition to panel discussions, curator talks, class tours, and family events, the exhibition project featured an exhibition lecture by Alfreda Murck (*95), performances by the Princeton University Orchestra. Under COVID-19 restrictions, EAS Program events morphed into new formats. One particularly well-attended online lecture, garnering more than 100 from across the globe, was given by visiting associate professor in Art and Archaeology Ya-hwei Hsü (National Taiwan University), who spoke on “The Social Networks of Antiquities Collectors in Northern-Song China: An Experiment in Digital Humanities.” One of the liveliest events was a collective Zoom book party celebrating new publications by six young scholars across the globe working on late imperial China, including Princeton’s Professor He Bian (EAS/HIS), for her new book, Know Your Remedies: Pharmacy & Culture in Early Modern China, and Mårten Söderblom Saarela (*15), for his book, The Early Modern Travels of Manchu: A Script and Its Study in East Asia and Europe.

Other notable changes in 2019-2020 included the addition of new subjects for teaching and research and arrivals and departures among faculty. Justin Tiwald (San Francisco State University) was a visitor at the University Center for Human Values; his work on Neo-Confucianism further enriched our resources in UCHV, Philosophy, and East Asian Studies. Joshua Freeman (SOF) began a three-year appointment; his work focuses on the cultural history of the transborder Uyghur nation. Bryan Lowe, who specializes in Buddhism in ancient Japan, was appointed assistant professor in the Department of Religion. Perhaps the most momentous change was the happy and healthy retirement of the longest-serving faculty member in the Department of East Asian Studies, Willard Peterson, who transferred to emeritus status in July 2020 after 49 years on the faculty. His scholarly oeuvre ranges over Chinese intellectual history from the early period to late imperial times and his editorial labors account for a significant percentage of the sixteen-volume Cambridge History of China.

The wide range of teaching and research under the aegis of East Asian Studies and related groups is related in the pages that follow. I hope you will sample the news from students, faculty, and visiting scholars, review the listing of lectures and conferences, and read about the activities of our library, museum, and the many departments, centers, and programs that make up EAS.

I extend our thanks to the staff of the EAS Department as well as EAS Program Manager Richard Chafey and EAS Program Coordinator Chao-Hui Jenny Liu for their hard work and flexibility. Their dedication constitutes the bedrock for our work.

Stephen F. Teiser
D.T. Suzuki Professor in Buddhist Studies
And Professor of Religion
Director, Program in East Asian Studies
Seung Hee Cho began her two-year appointment as a Korean Language Lecturer. Her appointment is part of an agreement between the East Asian Studies Department and Yonsei University to meet increased enrollment in Korean Language classes.

Fang-Yen (Amy) Hsieh was appointed as a Chinese Language Lecturer. Prior to Princeton University, she has taught Chinese language classes at different levels in the UK (University of Cambridge), the USA (University of Mississippi) and Taiwan (National Taiwan Normal University).

Susie Kim joined the Department of East Asian Studies in 2019 as a lecturer for the Korean Language Program. She earned her PhD in Second Language Studies (2019) from Michigan State University, where she taught various levels of Korean language courses for three years.

Qi Qi was appointed as a lecturer for the Chinese Language Program. She received her master’s degree in East Asian Studies with a concentration on Chinese Pedagogy. Prior to the appointment, she worked as an associate teacher at Columbia University for two years and co-taught at the Princeton-in-Beijing program in the summer of 2019.

Namseok Yong was appointed as a Korean language lecturer. He received his PhD (2019) and M.Phil (2017) in linguistics from the Graduate Center of the City University of New York (CUNY) and M.A. (2010) in English linguistics from Hanyang University (Seoul). He

East Asian Studies Department

At the end of the spring semester 2020, Martin Kern steps down as Chair of the East Asian Studies Department. Anna Shields is the new and incoming Chair. Federico Marcon served his second year as Director of Graduate Studies. Ksenia Chizhova served her first year as Director of Undergraduate Studies (also known as the Departmental Representative). Both Marcon and Chizhova will continue their appointments for 2020-21.

Arrivals

Bryan Lowe (REL) returns to Princeton’s Department of Religion where he received his PhD in 2012, after teaching at Vanderbilt University from 2012–2019. Lowe specializes in Buddhism in ancient Japan. His first book, Ritualized Writing: Buddhist Practice and Scriptural Cultures in Ancient Japan, won the John Whitney Hall Book Prize. His current research focuses on provincial preaching.

Joshua Freeman arrives at Princeton’s Society of Fellows. Freeman is a historian of twentieth-century China and Inner Asia, with a research focus on national culture in the socialist periphery. In particular, he studies the cultural history of the transborder Uyghur nation, whose formation was closely intertwined with history’s two largest socialist states. Joshua completed his PhD at Harvard University May 2019.
specializes in Korean linguistics (Morphology and Syntax) and psycholinguistics.

Jieyun Zhu joined the Department as a Chinese Language Lecturer in the fall of 2019. Jieyun earned her Master’s degree in Chinese Linguistics from Peking University, with the concentration on Chinese semantics and pragmatics.

EAS faculty on leave next year include Paize Keulemans, Amy Borovoy, He Bian, Jing Wang, and Shinji Sato.

Departures

Guangchen Chen, who was the Cotsen Fellow and Lecturer in Comparative Literature/East Asian Studies in Princeton’s Society of Fellows for the last three years, will take up a new position at Emory University as Assistant professor of Chinese in the Department of Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures.

Willard Peterson, Gordon Wu ’58 Professor of Chinese Studies, Professor of East Asian Studies and History, retires at the end of this year after 49 years of teaching at Princeton. Please see below for his “Faculty in Focus” profile.

Visitors

Yasufumi Horikawa, a visitor in the East Asian Studies Department, is a specialist at the Historiographical Institute at the University of Tokyo, where he is engaged in the compilation and publication of Japanese historical materials concerning pre-modern Japan. He is especially interested in the dynamic process of the reorganization of control over local societies by the Muromachi Bakufu, the warrior government from the 14th to the early 15th century.

Ya-hwei Hsu is an associate professor in the Department of History at National Taiwan University. Co-sponsored by the East Asian Studies Program and the Department of Art and Archaeology, Prof. Hsu spent spring 2020 co-teaching a graduate course on Chinese antiquarian art and collecting culture from the 10th to the 14th century at Princeton. She leads the database project Middle Period Chinese Tombs.

Yiming Ling, postdoctoral research associate sponsored by the East Asian Studies Library, spent six months working alongside librarians on the second volume in the project, a catalog of Chinese works published between 1796 and 1911.

Jianwei Xu, visitor in the East Asian Studies Department, is associate professor at Renmin University and Vice-Director of Renmin’s International Center for the Study of Ancient Text Cultures. His main research fields include texts and scholarly work in Pre-Qin and Han dynasty; history, literature and arts of the Wei-Jin and Northern and Southern dynasties.

Justin Tiwald, visitor at the Princeton University Center for Human Values, is a professor of philosophy at San Francisco State University and specialist in Chinese philosophy. Recent books include Neo-Confucianism: A Philosophical Introduction (with Stephen C. Angle) and Readings in Later Chinese Philosophy (with Bryan W. Van Norden). With Eric L. Hutton, he is a series co-editor of Oxford Chinese Thought.
The EAS Department continued its tradition of excellence in language training in 2019–20. The Chinese Language Program, under the direction of C.P. Chou and Jing Wang with twelve full time language lecturers, enrolled 461 students (fall: 245, spring: 216). The Japanese Language Program, directed by Shinji Sato with four language lecturers, welcomed 190 students (fall: 98, spring: 92). The Korean Language Program, led by Ho Jung Choi with four language lecturers, enrolled 176 students (fall: 93, spring: 83).

The Chinese Language Program

Three new lecturers, Fang-yen Hsieh, Qi Qi and Jieyun Zhu, joined the Chinese language program in 2019. Hsieh received her PhD in Theoretical and Applied Linguistics from Cambridge University in 2015. Qi received her Master’s degree in East Asian Languages and Culture from Columbia University in May, 2019. Zhu received her Master’s degree from Peking University in Teaching Chinese as a Second Language and Chinese linguistics in 2018 and finished her training in the Chinese Teacher Training Certificate program at Columbia University before joining Princeton.

Three of our colleagues will leave us this year. Xin Zou will go to Lafayette College as assistant professor, Jing Xie will teach at Bowdoin College as a Chinese lecturer, and Yike Li received an offer from Columbia University as a Chinese lecturer.

In October 2019, planning began for the 28th Annual International Conference on Chinese Language Instruction, scheduled to take place on April 25, 2020 and sponsored by the Chinese Linguistics Project, Princeton-in-Beijing, and the East Asian Studies Program. A conference program was finalized, and conference presenters were notified in early February 2020. Unfortunately, soon after, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the difficult and unprecedented decision to cancel the conference was made.

However, the Chinese program successfully organized our first Chinese culture activity on November 20th, 2019. This well-attended event, held in Frist Campus Center and open to the public, included tea-tasting, paper-
cutting, Chinese music and calligraphy. Students had hands-on experience making different kinds of tea with various utensils, cutting red paper into artistic forms or Chinese characters, and using brush and inkstone to write Chinese calligraphy.

In lieu of an in-person program, Princeton-in-Beijing (see below) is moving ahead with an online program for Summer 2020. Prof. C.P. Chou composed texts with new and up-to-date topics such as the spreading of COVID-19 and online learning to be used in the summer program.

To facilitate students learning under the virtual instruction environment, instructors of Elementary Chinese adopted a flipped classroom approach to complement classroom teaching by creating videos of grammar and structure explanations for students to preview and review. With easy online access, these materials provide an alternative and flexible way to help students better prepare themselves and make classroom teaching more effective.

The Japanese Language Program

In 2019-20, the Japanese Language Program continuously explored new methods of teaching so that students could learn the language and culture more effectively. The new JPN101/102 curriculum adapted flipped teaching (JPN105 had already adopted it since 2016), a teaching method in which students review course materials prior to the class, and class time is devoted to practicing application. We discovered in transition from face-to-face to virtual classroom teaching this spring that this methodology made the transition smoother.

We continued our collaboration with local and online communities to provide students with opportunities to explore the Japanese language and culture in settings outside the classroom. Within the classroom, first- and second-year Japanese students communicated online with Japanese university students in Japan (JPN 101: Kansai University, JPN 102: University of Sao Paulo, and Tam Kang University in Taiwan, JPN 105: Nagasaki International University). For the community project in JPN 305, students conducted various projects through which they applied the Japanese they had learned within Japanese-speaking communities. JPN 408 students collaborated with Kobe University and Milan University to think about what they can do in the coronavirus pandemic era utilizing their multilingual background.

We invited Japanese-speaking guests from nearby communities to the weekly Forbes and Whitman Japanese language table. After Spring Break and due to the global health crisis, we switched to a Zoom Table, which allowed our alumni to join in the discussions, a unique feature as we created new opportunities of language engagement. During the fall semester students from Izumigaoka high school (in Ishikawa Prefecture, home to our summer intensive course, Princeton-in-Ishikawa) came to Princeton. In November the Japanese Language Program hosted a

Kyogen Performance: Daijiro Zenchiku, Noriyoshi Ohkura, and Shinkai Yoshida performed Busu (The Delicious Poison)
Kyogen (Japanese traditional comedy) event by Daijiro Zenchiku, Noriyoshi Ohkura, and Shinkai Yoshida. They performed one of the most famous Japanese comedies, Busu (The Delicious Poison).

The 25th Princeton Japanese Pedagogy Forum was unfortunately cancelled, but Professor Ittoku Tomano (Kumamoto University) kindly agreed to give a Zoom speech entitled “What is ‘Language’ for Education?” on May 9, 2020. For more information, please check https://pjpf.princeton.edu/

The Korean Language Program

The Korean Language Program enrolled a total of 172 students in 2019-20) in five levels along with a year-long separate heritage-track with five full-time lecturers, including Yonsei KLI Teaching Fellow, Seunghhee Cho, and Senior Lecturer, Ho Jung Choi.

The eighth Kimbap Making Workshop was held in Jones 202 on December 6, 2019, with the generous support of the Department of East Asian Studies. Approximately 130 students, faculty, and staff members learned how to make Kimbap, Korean-style rice rolls, and tasted Korean seaweed snack sponsored by the CJ Group Corporation. The annual screening of Korean student final projects was held online on May 7 and 8, 2020. First and second year Korean students entered the screening with their group video projects, including short skits, self-dubbing on Korean dramas, movies, and TV shows. Five groups from first year Korean and two groups from second year Korean received awards based on the results from student voting. The final projects have been posted on the Korean Language Program Facebook page.

The Korean Language Program organized its first Princeton Korean Pedagogy Workshop (PKPW) on Feb. 22, 2020, with the generous support of the East Asian Studies Program. Our guest speaker was Associate professor Seung Hae Kang from Yonsei University (Seoul), who delivered a keynote speech on professional development and led a workshop for Korean language instructors at Princeton and other institutions nearby, including Rutgers and University of Pennsylvania. This workshop provided participants valuable opportunities for in-depth discussion of professional practices in the field of Korean language education.

Receiving a grant from the David A. Gardner ’69 Magic Project, Senior Lecturer Ho Jung Choi and the Korean lecturers have been developing Virtual Reality (VR) video content for Korean language courses; they continue to engage students in virtual cultural and linguistic immersion through various VR projects.
This year, the Department and Program graduated 39 seniors in a virtual Class Day (see slides below). The Department had 12 concentrators and 10 language and culture certificate students. The Program granted certificates to 17 students.

East Asian Studies Prizes

This year the Buchanan and Bienen Prizes went to Jacob Goldberg and Brandon Mintzer, respectively. Both are concentrators in the East Asian Studies Department. Other honors include Program Certificate graduates Catherine Kong (COS) and Chun Xi Eliot Chen (POL), who won a Fulbright and the inaugural Jennifer Wythes Vettel ‘86 Senior Thesis Honor Award Prize from the Center for Contemporary China, respectively. Thesis titles and descriptions are below.

The Marjory Chadwick Buchanan Senior Thesis Prize, for the most outstanding EAS Department senior thesis, based on extensive and appropriate sources in Chinese, Japanese, or Korean as well as Western language sources:


Goldberg’s thesis approaches the entanglement of knowledge, power, and subjectivity through the lens of contemporary Chinese science fiction stories and a savvy take on pertinent critical theory—Foucault, James, Deleuze, to name just a few. While the selected texts ponder the implications of the ever expanding surveillance technologies deployed by the Chinese state, the genealogy of thinking about knowledge and state power is traced back to Lu Xun and turn-of-the-twentieth century Chinese realist fiction, which balances a call for public enlightenment with wariness of the role of the technological media in knowledge transmission. This longue durée historical perspective is introduced into a productive conversation with the interdisciplinary inquiry into the aesthetic politics of the future, of which science fiction is part of. The close engagement with a wide range of primary sources, theoretical sophistication, and elegant prose of this thesis make it an outstanding work of undergraduate research.


Mintzer’s thesis investigates the aesthetic weight of museum objects and cultural memories—the displaced and constantly reimagined collection of the Taiwan Palace Museum—deployed on the highly charged political landscape. Constructing his study on the premise of theoretical understanding of space and the museum in the articulation of national imaginaries, Mintzer deftly highlights the tensions between Taiwan’s attempts to nationalize the museum collection and the instability of
Taiwan’s own national identity. The framework for the articulation of this museum project is further extended to include the principles of “Publicization,” “Localization,” “Specification,” “Diversification,” and “Globalization.” The sensitive balancing of global, local, and macrohistorical perspectives upon the museum’s development, the extensive fieldwork, and the richness of detail and analysis coalesce into an illuminating new perspective upon the cultural history of this important institution.

**EAS Department Majors**


**Jacob (Coby) Bronznick Goldberg**, “Knowing Subjects and Known Objects: The Disappearance of the Individual in Contemporary Chinese Science Fiction.”

**Michael Nathaniel Kamsky**, “China’s Mismanagement of Medical Supply Chains: Analyzing Inefficiencies and Identifying Solutions for the Blood and N95 Mask Supply Chains.”


**Sofie Mihyun Hostrup Kim**, “Fashion and Upheaval: Bottom-up Creations of Intimacies in East Asia”

**Brandon Michael Mintzer**, “An Objective Identity: The Role of the National Palace Museum in the ROC and Taiwanese Narratives”

**Natalie Heller Nagorski**, “Do Women Still Hold Up Half the Sky? An Analysis of Female Representation in the Contemporary Political Landscape in China.”


**Soyeong Park**, “Assembling this Corean Body.”


**Cecilia Vergara**, “Have you eaten?: Analyzing young Korean women’s relationship with food in K-Dramas and its intersection with K-Pop and K-Beauty.”

**Jacob Allen Williams**, “Re-Queering Utena: Localized and Global Queerness in the Anime Series Revolutionary Girl Utena.”

**EAS Department Language and Culture Certificates**


**Clare Cook** (ELE), “Replacement or Merging: A Comparison of James Legge’s and Yang Tingyun’s Visions for Fusing Confucianism and Christianity.”


**Joshua Gardner** (COS), “Language, Semantics, and Tradition: Dai Zhen as an Example of Early Modernity in Qing China.”


Kevin Changping Lin (MAT), “The Role of Knowledge in Society in Confucianism and Daoism.”

Benjamin Parker (POL), “Gravitational Power: An Analysis of Chinese Power and Influence in Latin America and the Caribbean.”

John (Manny) Manuel Ramirez (WWS), “Two Asian Giants, Too Many Men: Cultural Differences and the Consequences of Sex Ratio Imbalance in China and India.”


David James Friedman (WWS), “Jummah on Jeju Island: Assessing the Legal Status and Integration of Yemeni Migrants in South Korea.”


Grace Koh (HIS), “The Origins of a Nation: Constructing a ‘Korean Nation’ from the Three Kingdoms of Korea.”


Jocelyn Reckford (WWS), “Use of Food Aid as a Tool for Diplomatic Engagement with North Korea.”

Anthony Sibley (POL), “A Show of Force? Varied Responses in the Severity of Repressive Regimes”

Natasha Keen Thomas (COM), “Domestic Workers in the Cinemas of Hong Kong, Malaysia, and Singapore.”

Sharon Xuelun Xiang (SOC), “Chinese International Students Studying in Hong Kong: The Effects of Transborder Mobility on National Identity Saliency.”


Caton C. Yang (ECO), “Rethinking Trade and Human Capital Formation: A Joint Export and Import-Based Approach to China.”

East Asian Studies Program Certificates


Chun Xi Eliot Chen (POL), “Tell China’s Story Well: Media Manipulation and Trust in Xi’s China”
Dissertation Completed, 2019-20


**Kent Cao** (ART) successfully defended his dissertation, “Bronze Cultures in The Middle Yangtze River Valley (c. 1500-1000 BCE),” on August 14, 2019.


**Yiyi Luo** (EAS) successfully defended her dissertation, “Yu Xin (51-581 CE) and the Sixth-Century Literary World,” on August 27, 2019.


Awards

Chan Yong Bu was awarded $4,000 from the JAA – Honjo Fellowship.
Seven first year graduate students started in the EAS Department in fall 2019. They were Shyun Ahn, Antonin Ferre, Joseph Henares, Fangyuan “Julia” Huang, Meihui Liu, Tsung Kei “Peter” Wong, and Aaron Su. Aaron Su transferred to Anthropology at the end of the fall semester. New graduate students across campus were Yixiu Chen (ART), Peilun Hao (HIS), Seung-Jae Pi (REL), Xiao Sun (HIS), and Zhoushu Ziporyn (MUS).

Coming to Princeton with diverse disciplinary backgrounds, Shyun Ahn (EAS) took courses in many different departments and contemplated how to refine his research interest. In the spring semester, Shyun explored topics in EAS and philosophy and critiqued his old paper at the Columbia Graduate Student Conference on East Asia. His new paper, which attempts to solve the contradictions in Yulgok Yi I’s *A Letter on Life, Death, and a Ghost*, is accepted at the North American Korean Philosophy Association’s annual conference though it is postponed due to the current pandemic. For years to come, he hopes to build expertise in Korean neo-Confucianism and other philosophical topics. In his free time, Shyun has also been translating a Korean poetry collection, which will be published in 2021. The fifth issue of *Nabillera*, a literary translation magazine he manages, was published in February and can be accessed at NabilleraKorea.com.

John Alekna (HIS) defended his dissertation in the Department of History in May and graduated in June. “I plan to join the department of History of Science, Technology, and Medicine at Peking University in the fall, though my title is still to be determined. I’m looking forward to visitors in Beijing!”

Yuzhou Bai (EAS) is working towards completing his dissertation. He was appointed the first-ever Professional Development Associate by the Graduate School last fall and has been co-creating programs and events that prepare humanities PhDs for a wider range of career opportunities.

In his second year at Princeton, Filippo Gradi (EAS) continued his research in early modern and modern Japanese history. His interests are in the construction of European knowledge between 18th and 19th century, the concept of philosophy between late Tokugawa and Meiji, the role of liberal intellectuals in Taishō and Shōwa, and the interpretations of fascism in the interwar period. Moreover, he has worked also on modern global history, analyzing the development of the concept of liberalism in Britain, India and Japan in the 19th century. He has presented his research at the University of Venice and at the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Megan Gilbert (EAS) spent the year connecting her research with broader questions and audiences. In the fall, she designed and taught a course on “World History to 1500” at Mercer County Community College, where she included Japan in comparative perspective across classical and medieval eras and enjoyed helping students grapple with using law codes to understand different societies. She also participated in the Religion and Culture workshop at the Princeton Center for the Study of Religion, where she presented the third chapter of her dissertation focusing on oaths as tools of dispute resolution. She is still incorporating the rich and varied perspectives received from her colleagues there into her analyses as she revises that chapter and continues to write her next ones.

Yixin Gu (EAS) had a fruitful academic year 2019-20 with his dissertation “In Praise of Erudition: An Intellectual History of Literary Culture in Han-Wei China” in good progress. He also acted as the translator of an article (author: Martin Kern) published in *Wenxue pinglun 文學評論* in July 2019. In June 2019, he gave a presentation about concepts and lexicology of literary productivity in early China at the “Authorship and Authority in Ancient World” International Workshop in
Beijing. In October, he presented an individual study on the reception and representation of the *Shijing* 詩經 in early-third-century CE China at the WBAOS Annual Conference (Sacramento). In Feb. 2020, he attended the CUBASGA Graduate Conference (Boulder), presenting his methodological reflections on issues of variance and textual stability in medieval China.

**Peilun Hao (HIS).** During my first year of coursework, I focused on modern East Asian history and took courses on Japanese history between 1890 and 1950, history of Japanese philosophy, and Qing China historical documents. For the Japanese history course, I wrote a research paper on war related visual materials in modern Japan that utilized rare collections in the Princeton University Library. Outside my main field, I also studied global history and modern American political economy, both of which complement my interests in transregional history and political economy. My paper “Rustic Modernity: The Interwar Rural Conjuncture in China, Japan, and the United States” was slated for presentation at Rutgers University’s Annual Susman History Conference, which was unfortunately cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. My coursework in the second half of the academic year also enabled me to rethink this paper, and I plan to revise it for future presentation and publication.

**Yang Li (HIS) spent the fall semester finalizing a dissertation topic and precepting for “History of Medicine and the Body.” In spring, she visited the Department of Global Health and Social Medicine at Harvard Medical School to jump-start her dissertation project: “Antibiotics, Scientific Expertise, and Pharmaceutical Marketplace in the PRC, 1950-present.” The pandemic soon limited all kinds of academic activities and archival research. The photo is her virtual appearance on the Charles River while zooming with other EAS students. She is patiently waiting in Cambridge, hoping to gain full working ability and to begin her year-long field work in China this summer.

**Kimberly Hassel (EAS) has spent the academic year conducting fieldwork in Japan for her dissertation, which centers on the relationship(s) between Social Networking Services (SNS), smartphones, and shifting attitudes towards (digital) sociality and selfhood.** As recipient of a Japan Foundation Fellowship and as a Visiting Scholar at the Institute of Comparative Culture (ICC) at Sophia University, she has also had the opportunity to network with other scholars in Tokyo. Kimberly’s fieldwork has consisted of in-depth interviews, online and offline field observations, and media analysis. Kimberly has enjoyed the connections she has fostered with her interlocutors – primarily girls and women – who have been kind enough to openly share their experiences and opinions regarding the role of SNS and smartphones in their daily lives. These narratives have proven to be especially pertinent given current circumstances of social distancing.

**Joseph Henares (EAS) completed his first year of coursework.** After taking classes on medieval and modern Japanese history in the fall semester, he moved on to classes on Japanese prose and Japanese philosophy in the spring. With regard to linguistic proficiency, he spent the year learning classical Japanese (*kanbun* and *bungo*), and passed the German reading proficiency exam. Joseph has also started to broaden his interests both geographically (towards the Philippines under Japanese occupation) and intellectually (towards a deeper appreciation of critical theory). He is looking forward to learning to read French over the summer while hunkering down in his room.

**Meihui Liu (EAS) has successfully completed her first year of coursework, with classes on Chinese art history, ancient Chinese literature, Buddhism and academic Japanese.** Focused on early China, she wrote research papers on historiography and textual criticism. Some merit further development. Meihui will continue her interests in the interaction between literature, historiography, art history and archeology in the two Han dynasties. Although her summer program in Kyoto has been cancelled this year, she
will continue to improve her Japanese in the next year.

David Romney (EAS) is currently writing his dissertation on late-medieval Japanese politics and religion. With a Fulbright Research Grant for 2019-2020, he studied at Kyoto University and Kogakkan University and collected resources for his project in Japan from August 2019 until April 2020, when his program was cut short due to policy changes related to COVID-19. He was also a participant in the Ise Study Program hosted by Ise City and Kogakkan University in February 2020. He has returned to Princeton and is looking forward to an eventual return towards something resembling normalcy.

Apart from coursework, Junbin Tan (ANT) spent 2019-2020 working on his general examinations on “borders/borderlands” and “rituals,” working as Assistant-in-Instruction for “The Self and the Person” taught by John Borneman, and working on self-directed projects. Summer and winter 2019 were spent on pre-fieldwork at Kinmen (Taiwan) on his dissertation project, titled “Borderland Personalities: Rituals and Political Inter-subjectivities in Post-Cold War Kinmen,” with support from PIIRS, Center for Contemporary China, East Asian Studies Program, and Anthropology. These pre-fieldwork inspired two papers, “Where Pasts Border/Bother the Present: Mnemonic Encounters in Postwar Kinmen,” scheduled for a workshop organized and funded by University of Edinburgh but cancelled due to COVID-19, and a dissertation proposal that will be published in the European Association of Taiwan Studies E-newsletter. He also conducted an interview with Myron Cohen, “Collaborations, Legacies, and Shifts in Chinese Anthropology,” to be published by the International Sociological Association. He plans to take advanced Chinese classes with the International Chinese Language Program (National Taiwan University) in Summer 2020.

Fumiya Uchikoshi (SOC) completed his first year of coursework at Princeton, with classes on classical and contemporary sociological theories, empirical seminar, family sociology and epidemiology. As an alumni of the University of Tokyo, he gave a lecture on his research, titled “Low Fertility, Population Aging, and Gender Inequality” at the UTokyo New York office in February. Facing the global health crisis, he recently started a collaborative project on understanding cross-national differences in COVID-19 mortality among the elderly, with a particular focus on Japan, one of the countries with a relatively small number of COVID-19 related deaths in the older population despite the lack of strict social distancing policies and the existence of cultural preferences for intergenerational residence.

Yuqian Wang (EAS) focused on modern Chinese history, late imperial Chinese history and modern Japanese history during the 2019-2020 academic year. She finished coursework and passed the general exams in these fields. Yuqian will continue her interests in social thought and explore the modern history of Wenzhou from this perspective.

James Watson-Krips (EAS) finished his second year of coursework, which covered such topics as Qing documents and the Manchu language, urbanism and urban ecologies, peasant studies, and German modernism, to name a few. In terms of research, James has continued his explorations into Chinese urban history (especially that of Beijing), and has also begun a new project exploring the history of automobile accidents in China’s Republican period, one that will hopefully become a conference paper in the near future. Outside of class, he took part in the 2019/2020 GradFUTURES cohort, “American Higher Ed: History, Culture, and Challenges,” and continues seeking ways to make the most of Princeton’s professional development offerings.
Japan has captured the attention of demographers and public health experts as a “super-aging” society. Kidney disease is a costly effect of global aging, and Japan has the second highest proportion of people on kidney dialysis in the OECD. It also has the lowest percentage of individuals living with a transplanted kidney. The question of ethical forms of kidney replacement sits at the intersection of anthropology, bioethics, and history of medicine. Borovoy was supported by an NEH grant to begin the study of living donor kidney donation in Japan. In January she presented findings at a symposium, “Bridging Humanities, Social Sciences and Medicine” at Keio University. She shared this work at the EAS faculty colloquium in February, where three physicians from the community joined the discussion. In January Borovoy was invited to the National University of Singapore to discuss her current book manuscript, *A Living Laboratory: Japan in American Social Thought*. Traveling there was a fascinating window into society, governance, and public health in the moment just before the COVID-19 crisis hit.

Having completed his term in the Society of Fellows as a Cotsen Fellow and Lecturer in Comparative Literature/East Asian Studies, **Guangchen Chen** (COM) will take up a new position at Emory University as Assistant professor of Chinese in the Department of Russian and East Asian Languages and Cultures. He will teach courses on modern Chinese literature, material culture, and music. He is currently completing his first book, *In Things We Trust - The Culture of Collecting and Chinese Literary Modernity*, and looks forward to working on a new book project, tentatively entitled *On Negative Musicality*. His publications this year include a biography of Jia 睱, a type of bronze vessel, for *Études Chinoises*, and an article on Lu Xun as a collector for *MCLC*.

**He Bian** (HIS/EAS) is pleased to receive the first print copy of her first book, *Know Your Remedies: Pharmacy and Culture in Early Modern China* (Princeton University Press 2020), right before campus closed down in March. She has had a productive teaching year lecturing on early modern Chinese history and working with graduate students. Her articles came out in *Late Imperial China* and *Saksaha: A Journal of Manchu Studies* this past year, and she has presented new research to a wide range of audiences in New Haven, Berlin, Amherst, Jeonju (South Korea), and New York. Next year she will be on leave thanks to a Princeton preceptorship and funding from the Henry Luce/ACLS Early Career Scholarship. She plans to visit many libraries in East Asia to work with Ming-Qing editions of medicinal recipe books and looks forward to catching up with colleagues once travel is safe again.

**Ksenia Chizhova** (EAS) is delighted to complete her first year as Director of Undergraduate Studies. Tough as it was, 2020 saw a record number of highest honors awarded to our students and a record number of senior thesis prize nominations. Way to go, EAS students! Ksenia also continued working on her book, *Kinship Novels of Early Modern Korea: Between Genealogical Time and the Domestic Everyday*, which is forthcoming from Columbia University Press in October 2020. Over the summer, Ksenia will work on developing her new undergraduate course Strange Korean Families, which will be offered in fall 2020.

**Amy Borovoy** (EAS). Japan has captured the attention of demographers and public health experts as a “super-aging” society. Kidney disease is a costly effect of global aging, and Japan has the second highest proportion of people on kidney dialysis in the OECD. It also has the lowest percentage of individuals living with a transplanted kidney. The question of ethical forms of kidney replacement sits at the intersection of anthropology, bioethics, and history of medicine. Borovoy was supported by an NEH grant to begin the study of living donor kidney donation in Japan. In January she presented findings at a symposium, “Bridging Humanities, Social Sciences and Medicine” at Keio University. She shared this work at the EAS faculty colloquium in February, where three physicians from the community joined the discussion. In January Borovoy was invited to the National University of Singapore to discuss her current book manuscript, *A Living Laboratory: Japan in American Social Thought*. Traveling there was a fascinating window into society, governance, and public health in the moment just before the COVID-19 crisis hit.
and Kyoto University for the research and dissemination of their documents. In the fall, the graduate students in his seminar, “Sources in Ancient & Medieval Japanese History,” with the aid of Horikawa Yasufumi, visiting from the Tokyo Historiographical Institute, translated all 53 of these documents, many of which are publicly accessible for the first time. [https://komonjo.princeton.edu/tannowa/]

Thomas continues to work on his monograph, *Kings in All but Name*, and he lectured at Princeton’s Davis Center, the University of Pennsylvania the Seattle Art Museum and in Mainz Germany for the lecture series Non-European Cultures of War in the Pre-Modern Period*. Several articles have been published, including his study of the Ōnin War, *The ‘Ōnin War’ as Fulfillment of Prophecy* in The Journal of Japanese Studies [https://muse.jhu.edu/article/746929](https://muse.jhu.edu/article/746929)

Josh Freeman (EAS, Society of Fellows) thoroughly enjoyed teaching his first two classes at Princeton, “Modern China” and “Everyday Life in Mao’s China.” Students rose admirably to the occasion as teaching transitioned to Zoom in the spring. In addition to working on his book manuscript, Freeman recently completed an article on transborder nation building that is slated for publication in *Asian Ethnicity*. He gave invited talks this year at UCLA and Rutgers, poetry readings at UCLA and Yale, and workshop presentations at Columbia and Princeton. His poetry translations have appeared this year in *Words Without Borders* and *The Southern Review*, the latter of which also published an interview with him. Since the stay-at-home era began, he has been posting a new poetry translation each day at [https://twitter.com/jlfreeman6](https://twitter.com/jlfreeman6).


Until COVID-19 hit America, Sheldon Garon (HIS/EAS) had a stimulating year of international exchanges. In September, I participated in a week-long global history workshop at the University of Tokyo. In December, I spoke about “Aerial Bombardment and the Transnational Destruction of Cities.” in an international conference on “Urban Futures.” That same month, I visited Okinawa for the first time to investigate the horrific casualties (100,000 civilians) of the Battle of Okinawa. In January, I taught a 30-hour seminar at the University of Regensburg on the atomic-bombing and firebombing of cities in Japan and Europe in World War II. It was fascinating to experience a different academic system and learn about how German students remember the Allied bombing of Germany. In May, I published an article, “On the Transnational Destruction of Cities,” in *Past & Present*. It is perhaps the first scholarly work to connect World War II “home fronts” in Japan and Europe. Confined to home, I have spent the last months teaching and researching but also enjoying the beauties of Princeton (seen here from my kayak).

G. John Ikenberry (WWS) had two books that came out in 2020. *The Age

Paize Keulemans (EAS). I have been working hard on my third project, “Old Novels, New Games: Chinese Literature as Play in the Late Ming and Early Twenty-first Century.” I presented on The Romance of the Three Kingdoms as novel and video game at a variety of conferences and universities (Ann Arbor, Minneapolis, Cambridge, MA), presented on the novel Outlaws of the Marsh as a Japanese role-playing game at the lunch colloquium, and am publishing an article on a variety of games as represented in the classic Jin Ping Mei. I also taught a course on (video) game theory as a graduate class, finishing with readings of roulette in Dostoevsky, mahjong in Bai Xianyong, and the addiction to slot machines in Las Vegas. My favorite, though, was teaching Romance of the Three Kingdoms with Yuanxin Chen this spring semester to undergraduates. Three of the students chose to create a (video)game based on the novel for their final project. We have created a website on which some of the projects can be seen. 

https://commons.princeton.edu/threekingdoms/

In spring 2020, Harvey Lederman (PHI) taught a graduate seminar on Neo-Confucianism, the first time in

memory that a seminar on Chinese thought has been taught at that level in the philosophy department. In the same semester, Lederman was awarded the Jonathan Edwards Bicentennial Preceptorship. The preceptorship will fund a year of sabbatical leave in 2020-21, during which he will continue his work on Wang Yangming.

Martin Kern (EAS) completed his final, seventh year as Chair of the Department of East Asian Studies, with much of the latter part of that year devoted to crisis management—soon after returning from work in Beijing on January 19 (!) and play in northern Italy on February 1 (!!). That was close. His principal publication was a lengthy piece rethinking the idea of “a poem” in early China, “’Xi shuai’ 蟀蟀 (‘Cricket’) and Its Consequences: Issues in Early Chinese Poetry and Manuscript Studies,” which appeared nearly simultaneously in English (in Early China), Chinese (Wenxue pinglun 文學評論, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences), and Japanese (Tōyō bunka 東洋文化, University of Tokyo). His comparative interests are now keeping him busy with Philological Practices—A Comparative Historical Lexicon, a sprawling project devoted to some twenty-five philological traditions around the world, for which he serves—with colleagues in Pisa and Berlin—as one of three editors.

Bryan Lowe (REL) loved being back in New Jersey after seven years away, despite now missing southern food and manners. He published two articles this academic year. His co-authored piece on Kōmyō looked at her both as an important patron of Buddhism in the eighth-century and as an object of worship in subsequent periods. His other publication came out in a Japanese-language series on ancient Japan published with Iwanami; this chapter focused on itinerant monks active in the provinces. He’s excited to build upon this work in his new book on the spread of Buddhism in early Japan for which he received a generous grant from the Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation through the ACLS for a research leave in the 2021–2022 academic year. It was also
great to be able to teach Princeton’s talented undergraduate and graduate students on premodern Buddhist texts, religion in Japanese culture, and Zen Buddhism. Bryan also started his first year as the co-chair for the American Academy of Religion’s Buddhism Unit. Follow him on Twitter at @bryandaniellowe.


Anna Shields (EAS). After a year as Acting Department Chair, in summer I saw two PhD students defend dissertations and begin new jobs and then had a busy fall teaching and traveling to present papers. At the Song Dynasty Literature Conference at Fudan University, I gave a keynote presentation on “The State of the Field of Song Dynasty Literature Studies in North America,” forthcoming in the journal Xin Songxue. In December, I made my first trip to Edinburgh to present a paper at a research meeting before the Paixue workshop. My second book will appear in Chinese translation this summer from Zhongxi Press. Although I was supposed to be on a fellowship at the Center for Chinese Studies at the National Central Library in Taiwan in April and May, I am currently spending my sabbatical in Princeton working on a third book. In July, I will begin my term as the new Chair of EAS. See the photo of me and Professor Dongbo Bian (Nanjing University), scholar of Song literature and translator of my second book.

Brian Steininger (EAS) returned from a one-year leave at the Institute for Advanced Study and Waseda University to implement two long-envisioned teaching opportunities: a Freshman Seminar on the cultural history of communications technology in East Asia and a graduate seminar on the premodern “Sinographic Sphere,” where writing linked China, Vietnam, Korea, and Japan. He has devoted the extra time at home during the pandemic to finding the best recipe for apple fritters.

Stephen F. Teiser (REL) published a new book in early 2020, but, owing to COVID-19 disruptions, is still waiting for it to arrive at US distributors: an
English translation of Chunwen Hao’s magisterial *Dunhuang Manuscripts: An Introduction to Texts from the Silk Road*. He undertook two stints of fieldwork, joining a FROGBEAR cluster in Liaoning to examine temples whose deities were enlisted to protect the nation in late imperial China, and surveying the ninth-century temple complex at Borobudur (Indonesia) to prepare a course on Buddhist monuments. He also organized a panel at the annual AAR meeting on fostering diversity in the study of Asian religions.

In AY 2019–2020, Jing Wang (CHI) taught four Chinese language courses and assisted Prof. Chih-p’ing Chou in the administration of the Chinese language program, recruiting new lecturers and organizing Chinese cultural activities. Her Chinese textbook, *i.e. Lens on China: Intermediate and Advanced Readings on Film for Learning Chinese*, was published by Hong Kong University Press. Her translations of several classic Chinese tales were included in Victor Mair and Zhenjun Zhang eds., *Anthology of Tang and Song Tales: The Tang Song chuanqi ji of Lu Xun*, published by the World Scientific Publishing Company in Singapore.

Andrew M. Watsky (ART) spent the 2019–2020 year on sabbatical, devoted to research and writing a book on sixteenth-century Japanese tea practice (*chanoyu*) and its many objects—ceramic jars and tea bowls, flower and water containers, paintings, calligraphies, bamboo scoops, and purpose-built architecture. The book is, in short, a study of tea-men’s hands-on, entirely nonvirtual, engagement with their treasured tea things. His sources include an unprecedented 1588 treatise on *chanoyu*, diaries kept by tea practitioners, the remarkable writings of well-informed Portuguese then living in Japan—and of course, the objects themselves, key examples of which are preserved in collections around the world. He was based mainly in Princeton, but enjoyed productive autumn trips to Japan, Venice, and Lisbon, where he met with scholars and examined works of art. The pandemic scuttled spring and summer research and lecturing plans in Japan and Europe, but book work continued unabated—as do hopes that we may all soon gather to share our common interests in person.

Xin Wen (EAS/HIS) spent this academic year on sabbatical at the Institute for the Study of the Ancient World, NYU. While working on his book, *Agents of the Silk Road: Diplomatic Travelers between China and Central Asia, 850–1000*, he also gave talks in Daegu (South Korea), Xi’an (China), and Singapore in the first half of the academic year. A co-authored article (with Michelle Wang and Susan Whitfield) on a newly discovered Dunhuang painting is due to be published in 2020 in the *Metropolitan Museum Journal*. Like everyone else, his academic activities have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic; but seeing how individuals react and adapt at a time of drastic change is also teaching him new lessons about his scholarship and life.

Willard J. Peterson was born and raised in Oak Park, Illinois, a village, as he likes to point out, with many houses by Frank Lloyd Wright. He graduated from public schools before enrolling at the University of Rochester initially for engineering. More interested in seminars than in lectures—a preference he maintained throughout his long career—he found his place in the History Honors Program at Rochester. In junior year, he began to take courses on “far Eastern history”; but no Chinese language courses were offered at Rochester. After graduation from Rochester and one year of graduate school at Yale, Willard joined the famed School of African and Oriental Studies (SOAS) at the University of London in 1961, invited by Denis C. Twitchett, a rising star in premodern Chinese history. SOAS offered a young but impressive phalanx of Sinologists: Angus C. Graham and D.C. Lau in philosophy, Michael Sullivan in art history, Patrick Hanan in literature, Stanley Weinstein in religion, and Twitchett in history.

In spring 1964, Willard completed his Master’s thesis, a biography of the 17th-century thinker


In December 1970, while teaching at Dartmouth, Willard was called up by Marius Jansen in Princeton’s Department of East Asian Studies, a new department that had been formed in just the previous year. In the fall of 1971, he began what would become his forty-nine years of teaching at Princeton. Located in Jones Hall, East Asian Studies was a start-up. Willard’s formative years as a young professor were also the formative years of the Department. By his second year, Willard was the Departmental Representative and ran the Wednesday afternoon coffee-hour seminars, helping the Department to develop into an intellectual community. Even during his years as the Department’s longest-serving Chair (1988–1999), Willard never took any course release: he taught what needed to be taught, including a frequent overload with the annually team-taught HIS/EAS 207, “History of East Asia to 1800.” His signature courses, however, remained his upper-level undergraduate seminars: “Intellectual History of China to the Fifth Century” (EAS/HIS 415) and “Intellectual History of China from the Ninth to the 19th century” (EAS/HIS 416). Meanwhile, on the graduate level, he served as main or second PhD dissertation advisor for dozens of students over the years, many of whom went on to illustrious careers. As they grew from students into young scholars, Willard had a unique way of asking questions which were less about the “what” of things and more about the “why”; in his friendly and yet incisive Socratic way he guided his students to discover gaps in their analysis seemingly on their own.

Willard’s career has been inextricably linked to one of the grandest of all projects in Chinese studies, the multi-volume *Cambridge History of China*...

Willard’s career has been inextricably linked to one of the grandest of all projects in Chinese studies, the multi-volume *Cambridge History of China*, an enterprise initiated by his mentor Denis Twitchett. By 1980, Twitchett had joined Princeton and soon thereafter tasked Willard with the writing of two chapters for the volume on the Ming dynasty. When Twitchett retired fourteen years later, it was left to Willard to lead and oversee the entire project. Willard found himself rewriting half of the first volume on the Song dynasty, and then was the editor of volume 9, published in two parts over 1,500 pages in 2002 and 2016, “The Ch’ing Empire to 1800.” Volume 9 broke new ground: for the first time in the series, there were detailed chapters relating to women and gender relations, science and medicine, and a host of other topics. Today, after some thirty years of his involvement and authorial contributions of hundreds of pages, the entire *Cambridge History* is now finally nearing completion.

Despite Willard’s career-long focus on seventeenth-century Chinese history in all its aspects, his two most famous articles, both focused on philosophy and intellectual history, encompassed the entire time span of premodern China. First, “Making Connections: The ‘Commentary on the Attached Verbalizations’ in the Book of Change” (*Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies* 42 [1982]), remains the most thorough and sophisticated Western-language study of the 3rd- or 2nd-century BCE philosophical treatise on the ancient *Classic of Change*. And second, “Another Look at Li” (*Bulletin of Sung Yuan Studies* 18 [1986]) tackles the central philosophical concept of *li*—a term hitherto translated as “principle,” “pattern,” “reason,” “law,” “organization,” etc.—in 12th-century thought. In his own exploration of *li*, Willard developed a series of eight propositions and offered the novel understanding and translation as “(cosmic) coherence.”

Willard’s passion has always been not just to learn, but to learn about learning. “A noble man said: ‘In learning, one must not desist’ (*junzi yue: xue bu keyi yi*),” states one of the great philosophical texts from ancient China that Willard taught his students with masterful insight and always more questions than answers, and for many years with his beloved dog lying under the seminar table.

(Abbreviated from Princeton University’s 2020 *Emeriti Booklet*)

https://dof.princeton.edu/about/clerk-faculty/emeritus/willard-j-peterson
The Program enjoyed a robust program of events and lectures up until the pandemic-induced shutdown of the university in late March. Unfortunately, the Annual Jansen Lecture was one of the casualties. Prof. Robertson’s Jansen Lecture, “Digital Hormones: Robotics, Emotions, and Techno-Spirituality in Japan,” is rescheduled for spring 2021.

The 2019-20Annual F. W. Mote Memorial Lecture
Reading Late Imperial Chinese Fiction: A Century of Developments
Robert E. Hegel (Washington University in St. Louis)

The academic study of old Chinese vernacular novels and short stories is barely a century old. Until the 1920s, China’s educated elite often dismissed vernacular fiction as too “popular” and too didactic to be worthy of serious appreciation. Even so, a few texts developed an avid following among the highly literate; only they had the breadth of learning needed to appreciate their narrative subtleties of this “guilty pleasure.” Modernizers among the young twentieth-century scholars turned to traditional novels and stories because of their previous rejection, hoping to discover the literature of “the masses.” Instead they revealed an enormous body of diverse texts that we are only now beginning to appreciate fully. How to do so has made this field of literary studies as diverse and experimental as the texts we study. Turning away from investigations directed more by political or cultural assumptions, twenty-first century scholarship on vernacular fiction seeks to place these writings ever more firmly in their cultural context. Generally this is being done through interdisciplinary studies to reveal complexities of what was thought to be simple a century ago. Important areas of recent research involve the novel as material object, sophisticated narrative structures, and engagements through fiction with philosophical and religious trends of their time. To exemplify some of these new findings, my focus will be on a short novel of 1641 that explores a range of psychological and philosophical challenges to the legendary Monkey King, Xiyou bu 西遊補 (Further Adventures on the Journey to the West).

Program Coffee Hour Lecture Series

September 13
Lecture
Elisabeth Kaske
Ostasiatisches Institut der Universität Leipzig
“Justifying Rank-selling for Famine Relief during the Qing Dynasty”

September 25
Lecture
Michael Strausz

October 1 & 3
Lecture & Workshop
Esther Klein
The University of Sydney
Workshop: “Rereading the Zhuangzi’s Inner Links”
Lecture: “The Language of Forgetting and Obliteration in the Shiji”
Co-sponsored by the East Asian Studies Department

October 8
Lecture
Yi Liu
Capital Normal University
Co-sponsored by the Buddhist Studies Workshop

October 10
Lecture
Yijing Zhang
Sun Yat-sen University
“Translation and Philology in Greek-Chinese Comparative Philosophy”
Co-sponsored by the Department of Comparative Literature

October 16
Lecture
Tatiana Linkhoeva
New York University
“Revolution Goes East: Imperial Japan and Soviet Communism”

October 19
Panel Discussion
Anne Cheng, Jeehee Hong, François Louis, Joanna Waley-Cohen, and Zoe Kwok
“Food and Feasting in Chinese Art”
Co-sponsored with the Princeton University Art Museum and the Tang Center for East Asian Art
October 23
Lecture
Armin Selbitschka
Ludwig Maximilians University
“Entertainment? Revisiting the So-called Acrobat Figurines at the First Emperor’s Tomb”

November 4
Diplomatic Visit
Ambassador Monji, J. Berkshire Miller, Kurosaki Miho
NYC Japanese Consulate General
“US-Japan relations, Security Issues, Energy, and Climate Change”

November 5
Lecture
Giorgio Biancorosso
The University of Hong Kong
“Wong Kar Wai’s Soundtracks: Music-Bicolage-Representation”

November 7
Lecture
David H. Slater
Sophia University
“Generalized Violence’ at Home and ‘Shadow Work’ in Japan: Oral Narrative Research on Foreign Asylum Seekers Coming to Japan”

November 7
Kyogen Theater
Daijiro Zenchiku, NoriYoshi Ohkura, Shinkai Yoshida
Okura School of Kyogen
“The Delicious Poison”
Co-sponsored by the Japanese Language Program, Department of Comparative Literature, and the Music Department

November 13
Workshop
Shiping Hao
China National Peking Opera Company
“A General Introduction to the Peking Opera”
Co-sponsored by the Chinese Language Program

November 15
Lecture
Nhung Tuyet Tran
University of Toronto
“Articulating Sinitic Values at the Interstices of Empire: Literary Sinitic, Vernacular Vietnamese, and Neo-Confucianism in the Cham Heartland”
Co-sponsored by the Colloquium on Literacies across East Asia

November 20
Lecture
Fabio Lanza
University of Arizona
“Liberation through Labor? The Urban Commune Movement in Beijing”

December 4
The 2019-20 Annual Mote Memorial Lecture
Robert E. Hegel
Washington University
“Reading Late Imperial Chinese Fiction: A Century of Developments”

December 9
Lecture
Jewher Ilham, Nury Turkel, Andréa Worden
Museum für Asiatische Kunst in Berlin
“Uncovering Xinjiang: What’s Happening to China’s Uyghurs?”
Co-sponsored by the Princeton US China Coalition, the Mamdouha S. Bobst Center for Peace and Justice, USG Projects Board

February 6
Lecture
Alfreda Murck (*95)
Columbia University
“Turnips, Peppers, and Mangoes: Food Symbolism in the People’s Republic of China”
Co-sponsored by the Tang Center for East Asian Art

February 22
Lecture
Seung Hae Kang
Yonsei University
“A Study of Korean Language Teachers’ Perception of the Professionalism of Teaching Korean”
Co-sponsored by the Korean Language Program and Department of East Asian Studies

February 25
Performance
Chen Yihan (Princeton University), Min Xiao-fen, and Howie Kenty
Composer, Singer, Accompaniment
“Don’t you Know? Changzhou Chanting”
Co-sponsored by the Music Department

March 2
Lecture
Sunjung Kim
DePauw University
“The Old Man and the Sea: Shinra Myojin and Buddhist Networks of the East Asian ‘Mediterranean’”
Co-sponsored by the Department of Religion

April 16
Virtual Lecture
Ya-hwei Hsu
National Taiwan University
“The Social Networks of Antiquities Collectors in Northern-Song China”
Co-sponsored by the Department of Art and Archaeology

May 7
Virtual Book Party
Greg Afinogenov (Georgetown), He Bian (Princeton), Ian M. Miller (St. Johns), Mårten Söderblom Saarela (Academia Sinica), Eric Schluessel (George Washington), Ting Zhang (U. of Maryland)
“New Books from New Authors: Late Imperial Chinese History: a Book Party!”
Princeton-in-Beijing (PiB)

Princeton-in-Beijing successfully held its 27th session in the summer of 2019. Despite a downturn in enrollment for other Chinese language programs in Beijing, PiB received a large number of worthy applications and remained one of the largest Chinese language summer programs in China while ensuring a high standard of language education. A total of 189 students and 74 teachers (excluding the Director and Program Manager) took part in this summer’s program, marking this summer as the largest program size in its history. As always, participants emerged from the challenging intensity of PiB with great improvement in their language abilities. PiB continues to lead summer Chinese language programs as the largest, least costly, and most generous in grant-giving and teacher compensation.

For Princeton students studying Chinese language, the Princeton-in-Beijing program represents an integral part of their language learning experience. In recent years, the Chinese Language Program has seen an upswing in enrollment for intermediate and advanced level classes, as undergraduates who attended Princeton-in-Beijing wish to further their Chinese studies after they complete the program. For instructors, participating in the program represents the most direct and thorough exposure to the pedagogy and teaching materials developed by the Chinese Language Program at Princeton University. Dedicated instructors that perform well during the PiB Program are considered for a chance to teach in the Chinese Language Program at Princeton University.

The total number of participants included 10 students from Brown University, 10 students from Yale University, all whom received FLAS scholarships, 13 students from the University of Rhode Island, 10 students from Hunter College, and nine students from Indiana University, all of whom were part of their Flagship Program. Students from the aforementioned universities were specifically recommended to attend Princeton-in-Beijing, attesting to the quality and recognition of the Princeton-in-Beijing Program at other universities.

Furthermore, institutions such as University of Rhode Island and University of Oregon have expressed interest in officially sponsoring Princeton-in-Beijing as a Flagship-approved program to make it easier to send even more students from their universities to the Princeton-in-Beijing summer program. Last summer, Professor Wayne He, Director of the Chinese Flagship Program at University of Rhode Island, and Professor Yea-fen Chen, Director of the Chinese Flagship Center at Indiana University, visited the PiB program to observe a full day’s worth of classes and had very fruitful experiences. They plan on recommending more of their students to attend PiB in the future.

Due to the cancellation of the annual Inter-University Speech Contest, PiB created its own Chinese pronunciation contest, Game of Tones, and held its first iteration last summer. The competition included the recitation of poetry, tongue-twisters, short essays, as well as voice-dubbing film scenes,
and participants were judged on the accuracy of their pronunciation. The friendly competition was well-received by students; more than 100 PiB students participated in the first round of competitions, with 47 students moving on to the final competition. Students noted that their Chinese pronunciation improved just by participating. Following its success, we plan on establishing this competition as the replacement for the speech contest in future sessions and inviting other programs to participate.

Princeton-in-Ishikawa (PiI)

During the eight-week program, 42 students from 16 institutions, including 18 from Princeton, stayed with host families and experienced Japanese culture by interacting with people in their home environments. Students also engaged in extracurricular activities in the afternoon and on weekends, such as visiting local schools and attending hands-on sessions in traditional culture like the tea ceremony, offered by the Ishikawa Foundation of International Exchange (IFIE), which has been a strong supporter of the program since its inception.

We made an annual overnight trip to Noto Peninsula on June 16-17. In addition to sightseeing, the overnight trip gave the students an important occasion to get to know fellow students better. The highlight of the trip was staying overnight at Kagaya Ryokan, a Japanese style ryokan (inn), in the Wakura hot spring spa resort area. This was the twelfth year PiI students stayed at Kagaya. It goes without saying that the entire group enjoyed the traditional Japanese cuisine called “kaiseki ryori,” a course meal, and bath-taking in a fabulous hot spring. Students selected the trip as outstanding in the PiI’s canvass of extracurricular events.

On June 22, 60 volunteers, including 12 PiI students, participated in an environmental protection activity. In 2012, there was a big symposium to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Ishikawa Japanese Studies Program (IJSP). On that occasion, PiI Director Seiichi Makino suggested that PiI should be involved in a volunteer activity for environmental protection as a way of expressing our indebtedness to Ishikawa Prefecture. Since then we have been participating in the event for 6 years. PiI students not only maintained the hiking trail and planted trees, but also helped make sasazushi (bamboo sushi) and played kusabue (leaf flute) with Kanazawa University students.

Through close collaboration among PiI teaching staff, staff in Ishikawa prefecture, and people in the ocal community, we established a stronger connection between the classroom and the local community in the summer of 2019.
The Peking Opera Immersion Program in Shanghai

The second Princeton Opera Immersion Program was held at the Shanghai Peking Opera Company (SPOC) studios and stage in Shanghai for three weeks, from July 15-August 2, 2019. Nine students and two alumni participated in the program. Eight were graduates from the departments of East Asian Studies, Geoscience, Computer Science, Economics, Art and Archaeology, Electrical Engineering, and one participant was a PhD student in Comparative Literature. All students had proficiency in Mandarin at the level of second year or above. Many participants in the initial two years of the program had also studied intensively in music and dance.

In summer 2019, Wendy Heller, Chair of the Music Department at Princeton, and Nancy Yunhwa Rao, Professor and Head of Music Theory at Rutgers and author of Chinatown Opera Theater in North America (Illinois University Press, 2017), participated as faculty fellows of the program. Zhuming Yao, a PhD candidate in the East Asian Studies Department and a native of Shanghai, served as the Field Coordinator, while Chao-Hui Jenny Liu (EAP) served as the Home Director. The group attended opera performances and visited Shanghai landmarks like the Bund and Jing’an Temple. One of our main sponsors, the Hong Yimei Foundation, organized a trip to the Shanghai traditional tea house Pinza Chalu 品嘗茶廬. Opera instructors included artists Cao Jin 曹晉 (lead teacher), Zhou Guosheng 周國盛 (male basic), Yu Tonghui 于同輝 (Old Man), Cao Jian 曹健 (female basic), and Miao Hairong 魅海容 (Lady). The group studying male roles learned an excerpt from the opera “Joining the Army and Farewell to Home” (toujun bieyao 投軍別窯) while the female group learned an excerpt from “Farewell My Concubine” (bawang bieji 霸王別姬). All students performed in a final recital for the Shanghai Peking Opera Company. During the academic year, the opera program co-sponsored, with the Chinese Language Program, one performance and performance by Shiping Hao, Actor First Class at China’s National Peking Opera Company (see “Events”) and a field trip to a performance by the New Jersey Opera Society. For the 2020 Winter Session on campus, Liu and program alumni, along with the New Jersey Peking Opera Society, taught the class “Peking Opera Live!” to Princeton students, staff, and faculty.

In addition to the Program in East Asian Studies, sponsors of the Peking Opera Immersion Program include the Department of Music and the Office of the Vice Provost for International Affairs and Operations, and in Shanghai the Shanghai Peking Opera Company and the Shanghai Huang Yimei Culture and Media Company. Support was also provided by the Joel L. Epstein ’67 *72 Fund for China Initiatives, the Paul and Marcia Wythes Center on Contemporary China, Princeton-in-Beijing, and the Department of East Asian Studies. For their work in starting up the project, the entire team, under the leadership of Chao-Hui Jenny Liu, was awarded a Tiger and Spot Service Prize from the University in October 2019. In February 2020, because of the COVID-19 pandemic and in consultation with the sponsors, the 2020 summer program was postponed for 2021. We hope to resume in summer 2021! For more information, see https://eap.princeton.edu/projects/peking-opera-immersion-program.

Peter Wong, president of the New Jersey Peking Opera Society, shows Princeton sophomore how to play the gong. Photo by Todd Reichart.
The Buddhist Studies Workshop


**Workshop:** *Formats of the Book in East Asia and Environs: A Workshop of the Book and the Silk Roads Project.* Nov. 19, 2019. The Workshop was a one-day gathering of 17 scholars, primarily from University of Toronto, Institute for Advanced Study, and Princeton University. The group examined rare books in the Princeton University Library, presented their research in informal talks, and planned future collaborations. Co-sponsored by The Book and the Silk Roads, a University of Toronto and Institute for Advanced Study research project funded by the Mellon Foundation, and by the Buddhist Studies Workshop at Princeton University, funded by the Glorisun Network.


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**AFFILIATED PROGRAMS**

*The Paul and Marcia Wythes Center on Contemporary China (CCC)*

This report is very different than previous years’ reports because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has led to the cancellation of several key events. Unfortunately, we have had to cancel the annual Global Seminar study abroad program as well as the Princeton-Tsinghua internship program for summer 2020. Barring any unforeseen circumstances, we expect to bring these activities back in Summer 2021. Nevertheless, we have had a very productive year with regard to research on contemporary China. In our annual report, you can find more information on our many activities, faculty work and awards, achievements by our postdoctoral research associates and visiting scholars, and programming involving our undergraduate students. It can be found here: https://ccc.princeton.edu/about

We continue the training of junior scholars and students, both domestic and foreign. In fall 2020, we will welcome three non-resident postdoctoral fellows: **Huancheng Du, Qian He, and Feng Yang.** They are working on research projects concerning country-specific shocks in the international trade system; assessing the impact of societal transformations in contemporary China on individuals’ life chances; and studying bureaucracy, corruption, and state-business relations in authoritarian regimes, with an emphasis on China. We congratulate our departing postdoctoral fellows **Cheng Cheng, Fengming Lu, and Donghui Wang.** Cheng Cheng will start as an Assistant professor of Sociology at the School of Social Sciences at Singapore Management University. In fall 2020, Fengming Lu will join the Department of Political and Social Change at the Australian National University as a Lecturer with continuing appointment (equivalent to...
Assistant professor in the US). Donghui will be an assistant professor of demography at Renmin University. Please see the biographies of our staff and current and past visitors in the 2020 Annual Report.

Finally, because of the generosity of our donors, we have been able to give out grants to faculty and undergraduate and graduate students so that they can conduct important research on many aspects of contemporary China. We are also pleased to announce an inaugural award: the Jennifer Wythes Vettel ’86 Senior Thesis Honor Award was given to Eliot Chen for his senior thesis entitled “Tell China’s Story Well: Media Manipulation and Trust in Xi’s China.” This year, we had planned on announcing the new annual Debra Yu ’86 Meritorious Honor Award going to one student studying abroad, but we will postpone the award’s inauguration to a later time, when our study abroad activities recommence.

We hope you enjoy learning about the activities of the Paul and Marcia Wythes Center on Contemporary China. Please be in touch if you have any suggestions or comments. https://ccc.princeton.edu/

The P.Y. and Kinmay W. Tang Center for East Asian Art

The Tang Center, under Director Andrew M. Watsky and Associate Director Dora C.Y. Ching, organized and co-organized a number of scholarly events in the 2019–20 academic year. Work continued apace on the nine-volume publication Visualizing Dunhuang: The Lo Archive Photographs of the Mogao and Yulin Caves and the stand-alone paperback volume of essays, Visualizing Dunhuang: Seeing, Studying, and Conserving the Caves, with a new release date of 2021 due to the pause in printing caused by the pandemic. The Center also continued to work collaboratively with the Princeton University Art Museum.

In conjunction with the Art Museum’s exhibition The Eternal Feast: Banqueting in Chinese Art from the 10th to the 14th Century, curated by Associate Curator of Asian Art Zoe S. Kwok (*13), the Tang Center hosted the October 2019 interdisciplinary panel “In Good Taste,” which examined the multifaceted ways in which food and banqueting shaped the visual cultures of societies in China and the Chinese diaspora. Topics ranged from ancient funerary models of fruits to exotic wine cups of the Tang dynasty, imperial banquets as demonstrations of power in the Qing dynasty, and weddings in modern times revelatory of family dynamics. In February 2020, Alfreda Murck *95 (Columbia University) presented a lecture that also centered on food. She discussed how turnips, red peppers, and mangoes took on special meanings in the People’s Republic of China and joined the ranks of nutritional symbols in Chinese art variously inspired by flavor, texture, scarcity, color, and historical circumstances.

In November 2019, the Tang Center held the eighth Tang Center Lecture Series, featuring Jan Stuart, the Melvin R. Seiden Curator of Chinese Art at the Freer Gallery and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution. In her series, “The Art of Assemblage,” Stuart presented two lectures on interior display in Ming and Qing China: “Decorating for Seasons and Status” and “Auspicious Elegance and Erudition on Display.” Drawing on evidence from texts and pictorial representations of interior spaces, she explored how people interacted with and appreciated ensembles of objects and deciphered cultural values through close inspection of interior decoration.

During the academic year, the Tang Center participated in the acquisition of two artworks at the Art Museum. The Korean artist Minjung Kim (born 1962) created Red Mountains, a striking work made up of layers of color wash on mulberry hanji paper. In Miho-no-Matsubara, the Japanese artist Ōta Chōu (1896–1958) painted a scene from a popular Noh play. Both works are now in the permanent collection of the museum. In the
coming academic year, the Tang Center will continue to focus on publication projects and explore ways to offer scholarly enrichment in a variety of formats.

**Beyond EAS: Princeton in Asia**

In 2019, Princeton in Asia (PiA) sent 148 full-year Fellows and summer interns to 20 different countries and regions in Asia, including Cambodia, China, Hong Kong SAR, Macau SAR, Timor-Leste, India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, South Korea, Lao PDR, Mongolia, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam. Our Fellows made meaningful contributions to their host communities and host organizations, working in the fields of education, public health, environmental sustainability, economic development, and peace, justice, and access to information.

All 2019-20 PiA fellowships were cancelled in March 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 crisis. However, PiA is glad to report that a number of our 2019 PiA Fellows chose to remain in their host communities to continue working for their host organizations independently of PiA, and still more have continued to work for their host organizations remotely from the US. We are proud of our Fellows’ commitment to serving our partners, especially in these challenging times.

As always, PiA is grateful for the East Asian Studies Program’s grant for language training for 2019 Fellows. These funds supported our Fellows in the study of Burmese, Cantonese, Hmong, Japanese, Kannada, Lao, Mandarin, Mongolian, Sinhala, and Vietnamese.

These funds allowed our Fellows to deepen their relationships with local friends and colleagues in their host communities, make more meaningful contributions at work, and develop greater independence and self-sufficiency in their day-to-day lives. Though their fellowships were cut short, our Fellows benefitted greatly from the opportunity to engage in language study.

**National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA)**

The East Asia Studies Program’s outreach to secondary teachers, funded by the Freeman Foundation, had two programs planned for the spring: East Asia in World History, a two-day workshop for New Jersey secondary teachers, and Current Issues in East Asia, a one-day program. Although the pandemic forced the cancelation of both programs, NCTA plans to reschedule both as soon as possible in the fall. Sixty-five teachers from across the state had registered for the two-day program. Entitled “From the Silk Road to the Belt and Road,” this conference will discuss trade and cultural exchanges from the classical period to the present.
A report on the 2019-2020 academic year should be about all the major activities during that year; still, it is difficult not to feel that the rather sudden closing of the Princeton University Library has been the defining feature of the academic year, overshadowing everything. March 18, 2020, was the date for the East Asian Library. Closing also meant shutting the doors for staff—and immediately EAL librarians stepped up to increase access to whatever was available.

Chinese Studies Librarian Joshua Seufert, recently elected to the CEAL Executive Board, set up a number of trials for Chinese language e-book platforms for e-books from China and Taiwan. Hyoungbae Lee, Korean Studies Librarian, also a new member of the national Committee on Korean Materials, used his established communication channels to negotiate increased access to Korean e-books. Setsuko Noguchi, Japanese Studies Librarian, put together a listing, “Finding Japanese Moving Images,” for film and documentary streaming services, especially for online teaching. With her colleagues at Columbia and Harvard she set up introduction sessions for graduate students of these institutions (who share the ReCAP storage facility located in Princeton), on how to study Japanese modern literature.

As this report is being written, the EAL just started allowing for some pick-up of printed material again, vital for humanities studies. But things move fast, and further details would likely be outdated by the time you are reading this, and hence are dispensed with here.

On June 17, 2019, the East Asian Library hosted some 30 outside guests from the 13 Ivy Plus Libraries Confederation (IPLC) university libraries as part of a recurring conference series where East Asian librarians discuss past and new possibilities for cooperative projects. These collaborative efforts started in 1984, when Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, and Yale joined with Princeton to allocate regional material and newspaper backfiles. Under the IPLC auspices, Joshua Seufert, together with his colleague Luo Zhou from Duke University, initiated a web archiving project for Chinese independent documentary filmmakers in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan in 2019. Due to the sensitive nature of their work, their web presences are at risk of disappearing at any time. The archive is available at https://archive-it.org/home/IvyPlus).

International cooperation was exemplified in 2019-20 by a contract signed in May 2019 with the National Central Library (NCL) in Taiwan to digitize more works of Princeton’s well-known Chinese Rare Book Collection. The project encompasses 65,000 images for an estimated 80-100 titles. Preference has been given to titles in the

TOP: Faculty and graduate students look at library offerings in the rare book collection in Firestone.
fields of Buddhism and Chinese medicine, both subjects in which the Gest Collection is particularly strong.

1796 was the cut-off date for items included in the updated version of the Chinese Rare Books in Princeton catalog published in 2017. At that time, traditional Chinese books published between 1796 and 1911 were put aside to be fully treated “in the future,” and no one expected that to be soon. However, a special opportunity presented itself, and this second project started in 2019. With the indispensable assistance of Donna Musial-Manners of the EAS Department in solving many administrative obstacles, Yiming Ling, from the Academy of Rare Book Preservation at Tianjin Normal University, arrived in November 2019 to start working on this project, laying the necessary foundations for a large future cooperative project with the same institute. The project includes not only the EAL collection but also, with the active participation of their librarians, less-well known items in the Marquand and Cotsen Libraries. Dr. Ling trained under Wu Ge and Yao Boyue, two leading rare books scholars, and had previously participated in the cataloging of rare books of Fudan (Shanghai) and Zhejiang (Hangzhou) Universities.

In Korean Studies, Hyoungbae Lee hosted Professor Myung Hwan Kim, the Director of Seoul National University Library. Setsuko Noguchi followed last year’s discovery that a bunch of old fragmented paper documents bought as study samples of Japanese paleography were of historical importance (now dubbed “Princeton’s Sakuramotobō monjo” collection) with a second conference in July 2019. Professors Masaharu Ebara and Yasufumi Horikawa, the paper conservator Akihiko Takashima, and the photographer Akiyoshi Tani from the Historiographical Institute at the University of Tokyo all returned to Princeton, where they continued to work closely with Princeton professor Thomas Conlan. A number of Princeton graduate students presented related papers at this conference. Now that identification has been completed, digitization will follow, and a finding aid will be prepared.

Five old Japanese documents called kishōmon oaths, also acquired to support potential research of graduate students, also turned out to be historically interesting. Horikawa, here for the Sakuramotobō documents, found that they were related to the Kōga Ninja.

Finally, Martin Heijdra, Director of the EAL, organized in November a session on “Forms of the Asian Book: Dunhuang, Silk Roads and Beyond,” as part of a brainstorming workshop for members of a project of the University of Toronto called “The Book and the Silk Roads.” The project’s overall purpose is to challenge the triumphalist Western narrative of book history, and

Princeton involvement started in July 2019, when Suzanne Akbari, one of its leaders, joined the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton, and met with Stephen F. Teiser. The Director also participated in a public panel called “Forbidden Tales: Censorship and Society,” held at the Asia Society in New York as part of Banned Books Week, to accompany an exhibition there, “Xiaoze Xie: Objects of Evidence.” Princeton books were used there.

Aside from special events, the main duty of the EAL librarians (including essential staff working behind the scenes on acquisition, processing, cataloging and serials) is to service all EAL users through direct research help and acquisition of material. Those efforts continue. Over the past year the East Asian Library bought perpetual access to three major Chinese databases: the Lidai jinshi dengke ziliaoku 歷代進士登科資料庫 (Jinshi Examination Database), the Tangdai muzhiming ziliaoku 唐代墓誌銘資料庫 (Tang Tomb Inscriptions Database), and the Han Wei Liuchao beike ziliaoku 漢魏六朝碑刻資料庫 (Han, Wei, Liu Chao Stone Inscription Database). All three databases are published by Zhonghua Shuju.

As for print, Joshua Seufert has built a collection of Chinese Archival Handbooks, detailed finding aids for provincial, prefectural and county archives. Princeton now has 340 editions, the majority of which are internal publications not collected at any other library in China or the West. Some of the information will be made available online through a geographic discovery interface available from EAL e-resource guide. A notable addition to the Korean collection is Pibyŏnsa tŭngnok 備邊司 警錄 (Records of the Border Defense Council, 150 vols.), translated and published in North Korea. This Council
was the de facto decision-making body of the late Chosŏn period. As for rare materials acquired in 2019-20, Setsuko Noguchi purchased two important scrolls of Nijūshikō 十四孝 (Twenty-four Filial Piety Stories), some original issues of Tōkyō Pakku 東京パック (Tokyo Puck), and a set of Kōetsu utaibon 光悦謡本 (Nō Librettos of Hon’ami Kōetsu). The EAL received special grants from the Friends of the Princeton Library to purchase two valuable multicolor Chinese works, the Guwen yuanjian 古文淵鑒 (Profound Mirror of Ancient Belles-Lettres), and a 1834 edition of Du Gong buji 杜工部集 (Collected Works of Du Fu). Seufert purchased a run of 60 issues of the lavishly produced Zhanyou 戰友 (Brothers in Arms), published from November 1947 by the Political Bureau of the Northern Military District of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army. And adding to our already outstanding holdings in Chinese medicine and in print history, a rare second Chinese edition of Quanti chanwei 全體闡微 (Gray’s Anatomy), published in Fuzhou in 1889, was purchased, which includes surprising color illustrations. Princeton now has the only known copy of this polychrome edition in North America.

Marquand Library of Art and Archaeology

Japanese Collections

With the digitization of the Kiyoshi Shibui Collection, scholars around the world now have access to complete digitized versions of this important group of 17th century Japanese titles through Princeton University Library’s online catalog. These illustrated books represent both the beginning of commercial publishing in Japan and the origins of the Ukiyo-e woodblock print.

Marquand also purchased a number of noteworthy rare books this past year, including the following: an early work by legendary artist, Kitagawa Utamaro (1753-1806), Waka Ebisu 酒譜 (The Young God, Ebisu); a unique version of Hokusai’s Kinoe no komatsu 喜能會之故真通 (Young Pine Saplings, 1814)—a three volume set of books, remounted as an accordion-style album; and an extremely rare copy of the experimental book, Saishiki gasen 彩色画選 (A Selection of Colored Drawings, 1767) by Kitao Sekkosai (Tokinobu), which is woodblock and stencil-printed with pipette-blown color pigment.

Rare architecture titles included two 20th century modernist works: Kenchiku yoshiki ronso 建築様式論叢 (Treatise on Architectural Styles, 1932) and Kenchikufu 建築譜: うつくしきい form のsymphonie (Architectural Score: Symphony of Beautiful Form, 1924) by Taka Itagaki and Horiguchi Sutemi.

Our most significant photography acquisitions were first editions of the earliest and most important Japanese artistic response to the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki: Hiroshima (1958) by Domon Ken, Hiroshima-Nagasaki
Document 1961 (1961) by Tomatsu Shōmei and Domon Ken, and Chizu 地図/ The Map (1965) by Kawada Kikuji. We also continued to purchase works by contemporary photographers, including books by Araki Nobuyoshi, Hosoe Eikoh, Ishiuki Miyako, and Sugimoto Hiroshi.

There will be many changes this coming year as Marquand Library prepares to move out of McCormick Hall in anticipation of the construction of the new Princeton University Art Museum. We do plan to continue to digitize our collection of Edo period books for easier access and will begin offering online exhibitions of the Japanese rare book collection on the Marquand Library website. Please feel free to contact Nicole Fabricand-Person, Japanese Art Specialist (nfperson@princeton.edu), for information.

Chinese Collections

Marquand’s Chinese art acquisitions added approximately 1200 titles through April 2020. Acquisitions include two new hanging scroll facsimiles for our teaching collection, Chen Rong’s Jiulong tujuan 九龍圖卷 (Nine Dragons scroll) and Shitao’s Soujin qifeng dacao gao tujuan 搜盡奇峰打草稿圖卷 (Sketch of Searching for Wondrous Mountains), allowing students to approximate the experience of viewing the works in their original format. New twentieth-century holdings include small-format ephemera from the 1960s in the form of satirical political cartoons and Chinese Vietnam War pictorial sheets. A Collection of Early 20th Century Photographs of Shanxi Province, 1922–ca. 1930, likely made to order for a particular patron, broadens our holdings of the pictorial record of north China during this period. This includes gelatin silver prints which were published between 1922 and 1928 by Ato Inga Kyokai, based in Dalian from 1922 to 1944; a number of the photographs are not present in the Ato albums known from the collections of Kyoto University and National Diet Library collections. Another exceptionally rare collection of photographs acquired by Marquand this year is the Emile Tourtin album of albumen photographs, La chine a l’exposition universelle à Paris, 1878. Tourtin, an otherwise little-known Paris portrait photographer, documented the contributions to the Chinese pavilions of the International Exposition. The album is unique to North America and no other copy is known to exist. Two additional sets in the National Central Library’s series of Qing imperial architectural drawings were also added to Marquand’s holdings: Guojia tushuguan cang yangshi Lei tudang: Xiangshan Yuquanshan juan and Qing Xiling juan 国家圖書館藏样式雷圖檔: 香山玉泉山卷，清西陵卷 (National Library Collection of the Archival Drawings of the Lei Family of Qing Imperial Architects: Xiangshan and Yuquanshan, and Qing Imperial Tombs). An exquisite album of stone rubbings, Jiexiao shishi tu 節孝事實圖 (Illustrations of Real Deeds of Filial Piety), will enter Marquand collections when library operations resume. The pictorial engravings on which the rubbings are based originally covered the walls of an ancestral hall commissioned by brothers Wang Wenyuan and Wang Wenrui in honor of their mother. The twelve double-page illustrations were designed by Qing painter Gai Qi.

The exhibition project The Eternal Feast: Banqueting in Chinese Art from the 10th to the 14th Century brought to life the art of the feast during three transformative Chinese dynasties, the Song, Liao, and Yuan. On view at the Princeton University Art Museum from October 19, 2019 to February 16, 2020, the exhibition focused on a rare group of surviving paintings from the period—along with ceramic, lacquer, metal, and stone objects as well as textiles. It revealed that feasts played a significant role in shaping funerary rituals, social status, gender identity, and contemporary politics in China during the 10th to the 14th century.

The Eternal Feast featured over fifty objects arranged in three sections that focused on dining in the afterlife, ladies banqueting in the past, and gentlemen feasting in the present. Several other aspects of elite feasting—including costume, cuisine, music, and dance, as well as burial customs, architecture and gardens, artistic patronage, and painterly practice—were also explored, offering a window into life, death, and art during a time period whose cultural influence extends in China to the present day. The project was curated by Zoe S. Kwok *13, Associate Curator of Asian Art.

The following courses visited the exhibition: the Freshman Seminar “Object Immigrants: Six Objects from China in American Collections”; the Art & Archaeology courses “Ten Essential Topics in Chinese Art and Culture” (cross-listed in East Asian Studies), “Color and Technology in the Arts” (a graduate seminar), and the Junior Seminar class; as well as a Visual Arts course and a Comparative Literature course. In addition to these Princeton University courses, classes from Brown University, Bryn Mawr College, and The College of New Jersey also visited.

Museum events and programming involved with the exhibition included the panel discussion, “In Good Taste: Food and Feasting in Chinese Art,” a Fall Film Series, and the lecture “Turnips, Peppers, and Mangoes: Food Symbolism in the People’s Republic of China.”
Editor’s Note

As of February 29, 2020 we were still enjoying our first Lunar New Year Party at the Princeton Art Museum. Little did we know that shortly afterwards we would be faced with unprecedented challenges: campus closed, students sent home; faculty and staff under lockdown in their homes. For the first time, Class Day was celebrated by ZOOM, with heartfelt videos filmed by faculty, power point slides put together by faraway Seniors, and the Chair speaking in 202 Jones to a virtual audience. This is the first East Asian Studies Annual Report pulled together remotely from submissions across the United States and around the world. Here is our story, starting from July 2019 and ending in June 2020.

Chao-Hui Jenny Liu

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Chao-Hui Jenny Liu, Frelicia Tucker, and Keiko Ono greet guests for the 2020 Lunar New Year Reception at the Princeton University Art Museum.
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