For EASC, the 2013-2014 academic year has been eventful. At the end of Summer 2013, Dr. Patricia Sieber stepped down from the EASC directorship and I resumed the responsibilities. During the eight years of her tenure, she secured numerous grants, including two Title VI grants, and led EASC to be a catalyst for innovation. As Ms. Cheryl Gibbs at the US Department Education says, Dr. Sieber put EASC “on the map as a center for excellence for preparing scholars on the languages and cultures of East Asia.” The entire EASC team thanks Dr. Sieber for her extremely successful tenure of the directorship.

Around this time of transition, we welcomed four new East Asian faculty members: Dr. Meiyu Hsieh (History), Dr. Namiko Kunimoto (History of Art), Dr. Max Woodworth (Geography), and Dr. Kerim Yasar (East Asian Languages and Literatures). With the four new members, we have a vibrant and active community with 58 East Asian faculty members in 23 departments at OSU. Last summer, Dr. Julia Andrews’ book, The Art of Modern China (co-authored with Dr. Kuiyi Shen), was awarded the 2013 Book Prize in the Humanities by the International Convention of Asia Scholars. Likewise, Dr. Zhiguo Xie in East Asian Languages and Literatures was awarded the prestigious Young Scholar Award by the International Association of Chinese Linguistics. EASC, ICS, IJS, and IKS organized dozens of events this year, working closely with the faculty as well as students and community members who are dedicated to East Asia.

It is an exciting time to be in the field of East Asian studies at OSU and in Ohio. Japan is the largest foreign direct investor in Ohio and remains an important country for many Ohioans. Simultaneously, the interest in China has grown rapidly on campus and beyond. At OSU, we have seen a 55% increase in partnerships with institutions in the Chinese-speaking world between 2010 and 2013. The number of students who are interested in China and the Chinese language is also growing exponentially across the state. The 2012-13 Chinese enrollments at Ohio K-12 schools were estimated to be over 28,000, a sixty-fold increase over the last decade which started out with enrollment under 500. The demand for Korean instruction continues to grow. Between 2010-2011 and 2012-2013, the enrollments in Korean courses at OSU almost doubled. To respond to the strong need for East Asian research, education, and outreach, the EASC team and I are determined to organize innovative activities and programs. We are also committed to put a strong Title VI proposal together and to provide resources and support to the faculty, students, and community to promote East Asian studies.

ETSUYO YUASA, PH.D.
DIRECTOR, EAST ASIAN STUDIES CENTER
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURES

RIGHT: THE EASC TEAM (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT): RICHARD TORRANCE, CHRISTINE PRECHTEL, JEFFREY CHAN, JANET STUCKY, AMY CAREY, ETSUYO YUASA, MARJORIE CHAN, AND MICHELLE ATTIAS-GOLDSTEIN. (NOT PICTURED: MITCH LERNER).
Center News

OSU chosen as site for Japanese-Language Proficiency Test

In Spring 2014, The Ohio State University was selected as a testing site for the Japanese-Language Proficiency Test (JLPT), as a result of the application submitted by the Institute for Japanese Studies. According to EASC Director Etsuyo Yuasa, JLPT is the most famous and well-known test for Japanese learners in the world. “Being able to offer JLPT at OSU will provide easy access for OSU students as well as to the students in our neighboring states,” she said. “This is a great service to the field, and it is a great honor to be chosen among many universities in the US.”

Developed in Japan, the JLPT has been used to evaluate the proficiency of non-native learners of Japanese through testing in countries across the globe. In the inaugural year of 1984, approximately 7,000 students took the test worldwide. Growing exponentially in popularity, in 2011, more than 600,000 students in 60 countries took the test. In the US alone, where the test is administered just once a year on the first Sunday of December, nearly 4,000 people took the test at 13 sites nationally.

Ohio, as a state, has seen a significant increase in enrollment in Japanese studies at both the undergraduate and graduate levels, allowing it to increase in rank from eighth to sixth on the Modern Language Association’s 2009 survey. In the Midwest, Ohio led the region in total students enrolled in Japanese programs, according to the 2009 data. Furthermore, Columbus, Ohio is in close proximity to many states with high enrollment of students in Japanese language courses (including Michigan, Illinois, and Pennsylvania) and can provide overnight arrangements for those traveling long distances with the many hotels surrounding the OSU campus.

Library News

New directions for East Asian collections in University Libraries

Globalization drives fundamental changes that are underway now in scholarly communication and knowledge creation worldwide. University Libraries is pursuing an ambitious agenda to meet these new challenges. Addressing a need for better and more consistent support for East Asian Studies, the Libraries added three new staff positions in the Collection Description and Access Department of Technical Services, with appointments of Yuimi Hlasten (Japanese Cataloger), Jian Lee (Chinese Cataloger), and Sanghee Seo (Korean Cataloger). Since all began working in 2013, many improvements and enhancements to Chinese, Japanese and Korean catalog records are already visible.

Increasing the focus on engagement and collaboration, the Libraries also established a new position for an East Asian Studies Program Assistant. In January 2014 Amy Hay Mew S. Hwang began working in this position. Amy assists in the selection, management and use of East Asian collections by coordinating activities such as acquisitions, cataloging, searching, reference, outreach and access support. Her language skills include native fluency in Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese) along with basic knowledge of Japanese (her college minor) and Korean. She has a BA in Art & Architecture from Miami University and holds a Master of Architecture degree from University of California, Berkeley. She has lived in Taiwan, Hong Kong, Japan and England.

Now that Amy Hwang (hwang.414@osu.edu) has joined Maureen Donovan (Japanese Studies; donovan.1@osu.edu) and Guoqing Li (Chinese and Korean Studies; li.272@osu.edu), the East Asian Studies section of University Libraries is discussing how to improve communication and activities. We want to reach both current and potential users of our East Asian collections and services. This is becoming ever more important as the Libraries now closely monitors use of print resources and digital services to assess the impact of its expenditures on teaching, learning and research at OSU. We look forward to working closely with you as we experiment with various means and channels to help you take advantage of all the wonderful resources we offer to support East Asian Studies. Please contact us with your ideas directly at the email addresses listed above.
EASC’s Fall Reception brings together faculty, students and community

EASC Fall Reception, September 13, 2013: An Event in Photos

TOP LEFT: DEAN MARK SHANDA (right), DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES, converses with [from left to right] DR. JULIA ANDREWS and two new faculty members, DR. NAMIKO KUNIMOTO and DR. MAX WOODWORTH. TOP CENTER: ICS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JEFFREY CHAN (right) welcomes community member, FRANK CHI. TOP RIGHT: OUTGOING DIRECTOR, DR. PATRICIA SIEBER (left), passes the torch to Incoming Director, DR. ETUYO YUASA (right). CENTER LEFT: IJS ASSISTANT DIRECTOR JANET STUCKY (left) and EASC DIRECTOR ETUYO YUASA share information about Japan-related programs with TOSHIKATA AMINO, PROFESSOR EMERITUS BRADLEY RICHARDSON, and YOSHIRO HIDEAKA. BOTTOM LEFT: DR. PATRICIA SIEBER, EASC DIRECTOR FROM 2005 TO 2013, DELIVERS THE OPENING REMARKS AT THE EASC FALL RECEPTION HELD AT THE FACULTY CLUB. BOTTOM RIGHT: DR. YUASA RECEIVES A WELCOME GIFT FROM DR. SIEBER, A CALLIGRAPHY PIECE OF HER PERSONAL MOTTO, “SEVEN BLUNDERS, EIGHT COME-BACKS.”
Focus on Cantonese

OSU’s Cantonese Program grows to include language, area studies courses

With support from the East Asian Studies Center, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL) offered its first Cantonese language course in Autumn Semester 2013, “Conversational Cantonese for Mandarin Speakers” (pictured above). A group studies course that will be replaced by a regular language course in future offerings, it is designed for American learners of Mandarin Chinese as well as native Mandarin speakers who would like to learn to speak another variety of Chinese. Under the supervision of Professor Marjorie Chan, this first offering of a Cantonese course was taught by a small but dedicated team of two graduate students, Yutian Tan (DEALL) and Tsz-Him Tsui (Linguistics), who were, in turn, assisted on course material development by fellow graduate student Litong Chen. The course will be offered again in Spring Semester 2015. We hope that additional funding in the future will enable us to extend the course offering to intermediate and advanced levels, together with other courses pertaining to Cantonese language and culture.

Over the years, undergraduate and graduate students at Ohio State have expressed a strong interest to learn Cantonese. With over 100 million speakers around the world, Cantonese is spoken in Hong Kong, Macao, Hainan Island, Guangdong Province, as well as parts of Guangxi in China, in addition to every continent on the globe. Cantonese had been almost the sole spoken variety of Chinese in North America until recent decades of immigration from all over greater China. Cantonese is an important language to do business in Hong Kong and southern China, as well as more generally to communicate with Cantonese speakers in Asia and the overseas Cantonese-speaking communities. In addition, Cantonese is quite unique among the numerous dialects of Chinese in having a well-established and unbroken literary tradition that spans well over three centuries.

The Ohio State University has a rare distinction in North America of being able to develop a Cantonese Program that offers Cantonese language courses in conjunction with other course offerings that contain Cantonese content, in both undergraduate and graduate courses. This is because Ohio State has a strong cluster of Cantonese scholars. Among the DEALL China faculty, Professor Chan has worked most extensively with Cantonese, beginning with graduate course work and then research on the phonology of her native Zhongshan Cantonese for her MA thesis (University of British Columbia). Professor Chan has presented and published broadly over the years on numerous aspects of Cantonese, from acoustic phonetic properties to written Cantonese with its use of unique vernacular characters. Her linguistics articles on Cantonese deal with both synchronic and diachronic issues, while lighter aspects of her research include gender-linked phenomena, as well as humor in Cantopop songs and Cantonese opera.

Professor Chan’s courses often include elements of Cantonese. For example, her Chinese Dialect course (Chinese 7385) contains readings on Cantonese, and her Chinese Opera course (Chinese 5474) includes discussions and examples from Cantonese opera. This is in part because Cantonese opera is widely performed all over the world and in part because a few years ago, in 2009, Cantonese opera received UNESCO’s prestigious designation as one of the “Masterpieces of Human Oral Cultural Heritage.”

Professor Chan’s research interest in Cantonese linguistics has attracted students with similar interest. She has directed and co-directed several MA theses and Ph.D. dissertations on Cantonese linguistics and served as external committee member on several MA and Ph.D. dissertations on Cantonese linguistics at institutions in Hong Kong. Her interest in Cantonese linguistics has also led her to organize, with the help of three of her graduate students with similar interests, the first Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL) in March 2012. As the first linguistic event in North America to be devoted solely to Cantonese linguistics, the workshop was a resounding success with scholars coming from as far as Hong Kong. Today, it is well on its way to become a biennial event, with WICL2 having just been held in March at University of Chicago, and WICL3 to be hosted in 2016 at OSU again. Potential future hosts for WICL include Purdue University, University of Minnesota, and others.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
Among DEALL’s literature faculty, Professor Patricia Sieber is presently completing a book on eighteenth and nineteenth-century Cantonese book culture and its impact on the development of Chinese Studies in Europe. She has also presented and published on the topic of Cantonese book culture, as well as written on Hong Kong women writers. Incorporating her research into the teaching of Chinese literature, Professor Sieber assigned a long Cantonese love ballad (Huajian Ji) as part of the readings in one of her graduate seminars. In fact, one of her advisees, a student in that seminar, is completing her MA thesis that makes use of that long love ballad, the earliest extant edition being from the early eighteenth century.

DEALL language pedagogy faculty members have also published on Cantonese. Professor Xiaobin Jian authored and co-authored the five-volume Kaleidoscope series, a textbook series for Intermediate and Advanced Cantonese. That Cantonese language series (with DEALL colleague, Professor Galal Walker, as series editor) was funded by the Center for the Advancement of Language Learning and has been used by the Foreign Service Institute and other institutions. In addition, Professor Jian is an international expert consultant for the National Research and Development Base for Chinese Language Instructional Materials at Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou (earlier known as Canton City), the capital and largest city in Guangdong Province. He also manages the Critical Language Scholarship China Institute at Yat-sen University. Professor Jian himself is from Guangzhou and is a native speaker of Guangzhou Cantonese, which one of the two standards for Cantonese, the other being Hong Kong Cantonese.

Ties with Guangzhou (Canton) also extend to Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). One was negotiated between Institute for Chinese Studies at The Ohio State University and the Institute of Chinese Dialects at Jinan University in Guangzhou. This MOU will just be the first of many in coming years, as that opens up possibilities for scholarly exchanges that will benefit students and faculty conducting research at both institutions.

As the above has amply demonstrated, the elements are fully in place for exciting developments in The Ohio State University’s Cantonese Program for new course offerings on learning the Cantonese language in conjunction with undergraduate and graduate courses that have Cantonese content, and opportunities to study or research in a Cantonese-speaking city such as Guangzhou or Hong Kong.

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Focus on teacher training

K-16 educator workshop explores Japanese kamishibai storytelling

Presented by Dr. Tara McGowan, storyteller, visual artist, teacher and writer, “Kamishibai Storytelling: Engaging Visual and Oral Literacies in the Classroom / Connecting to the Common Core Literacy Standards,” a workshop for K-16 educators, was hosted by the Institute for Japanese Studies on Saturday, February 8, 2014 on The Ohio State University campus. Kamishibai is a dynamic and interactive storytelling form from Japan that allows students to develop mastery of multiple literacies, while also learning to combine these literacies effectively. This hands-on workshop was based on McGowan’s book, The Kamishibai Classroom: Engaging Multiple Literacies through the Art of “Paper Theater” (2010), and her experiences of more than a decade teaching kamishibai in public school classrooms and other venues in the United States. The workshop covered a broad range of techniques used by kamishibai practitioners in Japan, past and present, and made connections to early traditions of picture-storytelling in Japan and to present-day manga and animé. It also explored how teaching through kamishibai performance can be aligned to the new core curriculum standards.

This workshop was sponsored by IJS, EASC, Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, and a US Department of Education Title VI Grant. For more information on the event, contact Janet Stucky at stucky.7@osu.edu.
Focus on professionalization of students

EASC and DEALL partner to bring culture workshops delivered by graduate students to community groups and campus units

The East Asian Studies Center (EASC) and the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL) began a collaboration in Spring 2014 to bring workshops on East Asian languages and cultures to campus and community groups. The first workshop, on February 12, was “A Cross-Cultural Experience at The Ohio State University,” organized by the Columbus Council on World Affairs (CCWA) and co-sponsored by DEALL, EASC, and the Fisher College of Business. Approximately 60 local high school students and their teachers set to travel to China in March attended the event. Mark Bender (professor, DEALL) gave two lectures, “How to Make Friends or at Least Not Offend Anyone in China” and “The New, New China” to prepare the students to properly interact with the Chinese people and to give historical background for their experience in China. Chinese pedagogy graduate student Bing Mu also gave a “Mini Chinese Lesson,” which engaged students for 15 minutes. After the lesson, Donna Nesbitt, CCWA education consultant and the organizer of the event, reported that she was amazed how Ms. Mu got the students to hear and use the tones correctly.

On the following day, DEALL, EASC, and the Global Gateways sponsored another Chinese culture workshop. This time, Mengjun Li, a PhD student in Chinese literature, delivered a lecture on Chinese culture and language to the 30 students and accompanying faculty from the OSU Jazz Ensemble and OSU Dance Department who will visit China over Spring Break as part of a grant from the US Department of State for the Global Gateways to share American arts and culture in China. Bob Eckhart, executive director of OSU’s ESL Program, director of The Wuhan University - Ohio State University Center for American Culture, and the organizer of the trip, said, “I loved that presenter! I really enjoyed her presentation style and really would love to present with her sometime!”

DEALL, EASC, and the Institutes for Chinese, Japanese, and Korean Studies plan to continue the program in the coming years in order to both provide a valuable service to the many campus units and organizations who send students and community members to East Asia, and to provide graduate students opportunities to share their expertise, improve their presentation skills and build their resumes.

Ohio-Saitama Internship Exchange Program builds students’ skills

For the past 13 years, university students from Ohio and its sister-state in Japan, Saitama, have been participating in a cultural and educational exchange. The Ohio-Saitama and Saitama-Ohio company internship programs host students from across each state or prefecture that are interested in learning more about business abroad while improving their language skills.

The Saitama-Ohio Company Internship Program allows interns from Japan to gain experience in Ohio companies and organizations during their four-week stay. This summer two participants, Daisuke Osa and Nami Sekiguchi, learned about various aspects of Ohio business culture. Daisuke spent time at BioOhio and The Ohio State University’s Institute for Japanese Studies and visited the College of Engineering at The Ohio State University, Beagle Bioproducts Inc., Department of Natural Resources, and OSU Campus Cafes. Nami spent time at Columbus2020 and visited NissenChemitec.

Similar experiences were taking place this summer in Japan as the Ohio-Saitama Company Internship Program participants were in the Japanese workplace learning about business while improving their language skills. Since 1991, 86 interns from universities across Ohio have participated in this program in Japan. This year’s interns were Nicholas Lederman and Rosaria Tirone of The Ohio State University. The interns worked at Kaneko Seisakusyo and Co-Op Mirai, respectively.

“This internship has provided me not only with a better perspective on Japan and its culture, but also with a better perspective on what I want to do in my own life, and I am extremely thankful for that,” said Tirone.
“Buckeyes Going Global” helps students to develop international careers

As part of International Education Week, EASC inaugurated a new career development event titled “Buckeyes Going Global: Perspectives on Developing your International Career” on November 13, 2013, which aimed to prepare students to leverage language and area studies, study abroad and internship experiences into viable international career paths. Led by EASC program manager Michelle Attias-Goldstein, the event was a collaboration between multiple campus units (East Asian Studies Center, Global Gateways, Fisher College of Business CIBER, Office of International Affairs, Middle East Studies Center, Center for African Studies, Center for Slavic and East European Studies, Center for Latin American Studies and Institute for Japanese Studies) and featured panelists representing diverse world areas, currently working in higher education, government, private and not-for-profit sectors.

Following a pre-reception, OSU Global Gateways Director Christopher Carey delivered the opening remarks, and turned the podium over to the evening’s moderator, Barbara Pratzner, president of Columbus Sister Cities International. Pratzner went on to masterfully share her own international experiences while moderating a discussion between keynote speaker Alan VanderMolen, vice chairman of DJE Holdings and president and CEO of Edelman Global Practices, and five other esteemed panlists, which included Ariana Maki, associate curator at the University of Colorado (South Asia specialist); Scott Kuehn, sales director at Jeni’s Splendid Ice Creams (East Asia specialist); Shannon McAfee, director of public programs for the Columbus Council on World Affairs (Slavic and Eastern Europe specialist); Sophia Payind, analyst in the Government Accountability Office (Middle East specialist); and Kelly Yotebieng, refugee wellness coordinator for the Community Refugee and Immigration Services (Africa specialist).

VanderMolen spoke to a standing room only crowd of more than 130 on his international career at Edelman, the world’s largest independently owned public relations firm, with revenues of over $700 million annually and employing 4,800 people in 67 offices worldwide. Formerly the president of Edelman Asia Pacific from 2002 – 2009, VanderMolen more than quadrupled the firm’s business, drove market entry into Japan, India and Indonesia, and managed the firm’s acquisition of Pegasus Communications, Edelman’s sister firm in China. He shared anecdotes from his international career, and his time at OSU, and engaged the crowd with thoughtful advice, such as “shock your parents with your friends,” “take risks in your career” and “focus on your passions while also making strategic choices about your course of study.” EASC would like to thank Alan VanderMolen and the other presenters for their valuable contributions.
Focus on Professionalization of Students  

Ohio-Japan Alumni Network created to mentor students

The Ohio-Japan Alumni Network (OHJAN) connects alumni from K-16 Japan-related programs in Ohio (language study, internships and study abroad) with alumni of their own or other schools, educators, students, businesses and the community. Members serve as mentors and advocate for careers using Japanese through email, video, webinar, or in-person interactions. Developed by the Institute for Japanese Studies’ Janet Stucky Smith, the network aims to support the 3,577 students in Japan-related programs at 42 K-16 institutions across the state.

Through the network’s activities to date, alumni have come together to present to students and teachers about their experience with studying Japanese and how it has affected their career choices and goals. The inaugural event for the network occurred on November 3, 2013 at the University of Findlay when several alumni presented a panel at the annual Ohio Association of Teachers of Japanese workshop, titled “Voices of Our Graduates: Improving Japanese Language Education with Career Focus.” The panel featured alumni from the University of Findlay, The Ohio State University, and Dublin Jerome High School. Jonathan Kashiwagi-Wood of Sumitomo Electric Wiring Systems, Inc., Drew Cook of BioOhio, Christopher Cheng of Missouri State Development, and Aaron Pelot of Ice-Miller Law Firm discussed ideas on improving Japanese language education by incorporating a career focus into the curriculum. The presenters provided insight into how Japanese language is incorporated and employed in the current workplace, how the study of the language helped each person reach their current position and become more marketable to employers, and what strategies could be adopted by the Japanese programs to help students prepare for their future careers.

In addition to the inaugural panel presentation, several presentations were delivered by OHJAN members in 2014, at universities across the state. On February 13, IJS’s Janet Stucky Smith presented to Japanese students at the University of Findlay. Later that day, she was joined by fellow Bowling Green State University alumna Sheila Spradlin Reich for a presentation to students at BGSU.

“It was interesting listening to the international business major and her story of how she climbed up,” one student said. “The information, advice, and everything mentioned was very enlightening and encouraging,” another said. “I am in love with Japanese culture. This was an awesome way to think about what I’m learning to how it could connect to the future for me.”

Additionally, Laura Bolling, a graduate of OSU’s Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies MA Program, spoke to Japanese students at Miami University on March 21. Finally, on March 27, Bolling was joined by Walter E. Grunden, Toshiyuki Hara, Erin Hope and Roberto Padilla II for a panel discussion at OSU titled “Alumni Voices: The Role Japan-Related Programs Played in my Life and Career,” moderated by IJS Director Richard Torrance.

Contact Janet Stucky Smith at stucky.7@osu.edu for further information.

ABOVE RIGHT: STUDENTS AT BOWLING GREEN STATE UNIVERSITY LISTEN TO AN ALUMNI SPEAKER AS PART OF OHJAN.
BELOW RIGHT: JANET STUCKY SMITH AND SHEILA SPRA DIN REICH, ALUMNI OF BGSU, CONVERSE WITH PROFESSOR AKIKO KAWANO JONES, BGSU’S ASIAN STUDIES DIRECTOR.
Focus on higher education partnerships

Korean e-School partnership with CIC institutions serves as “model for taking learning without borders to new level”

As part of a newly created effort to build an e-class system of shared courses with Korean content, the Institute for Korean Studies in conjunction with the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) and supported by a grant from the Korea Foundation, began a new program to simulcast Korean course offerings via internet and classroom. OSU began e-class exchange in Spring Semester 2014, with over 100 students from six different institutions in the CIC participating. OSU provided one class, “Two Koreas: Political Economy of Regional Rivalry,” taught by Dr. Young Bae Hwang in International Studies, which was received by 25 students at Purdue and the University of Wisconsin. Two other classes, one in History and one in East Asian Languages and Literature, were offered to OSU students from originating schools at the University of Michigan and the University of Wisconsin. Another class, “Cold War Culture in Korea,” is scheduled to be offered to OSU in the Fall semester, from its home at the University of Minnesota. These courses feature cutting-edge technology, small enrollments, and real-time interaction between the different campuses, and were featured in an article by the College of Arts and Sciences and OSU Today. “The idea of offering these courses,” concluded the article, “simultaneously to 36 students on different campuses in a completely interactive situation with face-to-face dialog is ambitious and yes—daring, but ultimately may serve as a model to take learning without borders to a new level.”

Columbus State Community College partnership inaugurated

In 2013, the Institute for Korean Studies and the East Asian Studies Center formed a new partnership with Columbus State Community College to implement a series of lectures for students and faculty interested in learning more about East Asia. The first talk in the series was delivered on October 24 by Sheila Miyoshi Jager, associate professor of East Asian Studies at Oberlin College. The lecture, titled “Brothers at War: The Unending Conflict in Korea,” was based on Dr. Jager’s new book, and examined the broad history of conflict and completion in Korea since the end of World War II. Arguing that the Korean War has yet to end, Jager introduced attendees to a wide-ranging story of Korean history and turmoil, one that resonates today. The talk, wrote one Columbus State professor, “was a great success. We cannot thank you enough for the opportunity... The whole experience invigorated our department to pursue new scholarly endeavors in the future.”

“The whole experience invigorated our department to pursue new scholarly endeavors in the future.”

- Columbus State Community College faculty member on the lecture series partnership with EASC’s Institute for Korean Studies

In the spring semester, Dr. Gleb Tsipurski of the OSU History Department will deliver the second lecture of this series, a talk titled “State-Sponsored Popular Culture in the Communist Cold War.”
Focus on East Asian relations

ICS and Mershon Center host 7th annual CHINA Town Hall

Held on October 28, 2013, “CHINA Town Hall: Local Connections, National Reflections,” is a national day of programming designed to provide Americans with the opportunity to discuss issues with leading experts. The seventh annual program featured a nationwide webcast by Madeleine K. Albright, the 64th, and first female, Secretary of State of the United States, and was moderated by Stephan A. Orlins, president of the National Committee on US-China Relations. The onsite presentation at OSU was led by Lloyd Neighbors, who presented “China’s Diplomatic Relations.” Neighbors served as a diplomat for 30 years with the US Information Agency and the Department of State. He retired in 2005 from the Senior Foreign Service with the rank of Minister Counselor. Most of his career was dedicated to work in greater China.

LLOYD NEIGHBORS PRESENTS “CHINA’S DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS” AS PART OF THE 7TH ANNUAL CHINA TOWN HALL EVENT. CREDIT: RYAN ROBEY / FOR THE LANTERN

On September 27, the Institute for Korean Studies, in co-sponsorship with the Institute for Chinese Studies and the Department of History, hosted Dr. Kirk Larsen, associate professor of history and director of academic programs and research at the David M. Kennedy Center for International Studies at Brigham Young University. A well-known figure in the field, Larsen has published, presented, and commented on a variety of contemporary issues including North Korea, nationalism and elections in South Korea, and Sino-Korean relations and has appeared on ABC, MSNBC, VOA, the Canadian Broadcast System, and Al Jazeera. At OSU, he delivered a talk titled “Beyond ‘Tribute’: Making Sense of Traditional East Asian International Relations.” Dr. Larsen’s research examines the traditional scholarship of a China-centered “tribute” system through an exploration of international relations during the Ming (1368-1644) and Qing (1644-1912) periods, revealing a variety of relations, many of which are not well explained by resorting to notions of “tribute.” The gap between East Asian systems of relations and their contemporaneous Western counterparts—where realpolitik and imperialism are widely accepted as integral features—is perhaps much smaller than has been previously imagined.

IKS, ICS co-host lecture by Kirk Larsen on the East Asian tribute system

Contemporary Korea and security issues explored through IKS series

In 2013–2014, the Institute for Korean Studies in collaboration with the Mershon Center for International Security Studies initiated a series of lectures titled “Security Issues and Contemporary Korea.” This series, intended to spark thoughtful discussion on issues related to North Korean history and security from a variety of perspectives, included three lecturers.

On October 24, IKS welcomed Sheila Miyoshi Jager, associate professor of East Asian studies at Oberlin College, for a lecture titled “Brothers at War: The Unending Conflict in Korea.” Based on Dr. Jager’s new book, Brothers at War: The Unending Conflict in Korea, this talk integrated newly available sources from across the globe into the story of Korean conflict during the Cold War and beyond. As part of a new partnership between IKS and Columbus State Community College, Jager also spoke on the same topic at Columbus State Community College, to a packed house of faculty and students (more details about this event can be found on page 9). This event was co-sponsored by EASC and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies.

Next in the series was a talk by Sheena Chestnut Greitens, assistant professor of political science at the University of Missouri and a scholar at Harvard University’s Academy for International and Area Studies. Her talk, titled “Coercive Institutions and State Violence under Authoritarianism: Taiwan, the Philippines and South Korea,” took place on November 7. This talk examined the questions of how autocrats construct their coercive apparati, and why these institutions engage in different levels of violence and repression. Drawing on archival and interview evidence to provide an unprecedented view inside ‘secret police’ use of surveillance, coercion, and violence, Greitens’ research examined the institutional and social foundations of authoritarian power in Asia. This event was co-sponsored by EASC and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies.

On January 9, Adam Cathcart, lecturer in Chinese history at the University of Leeds, England, delivered the final talk in the series, titled “China-North Korea Relations in the Kim Jong-un Era.” This talk examined the contemporary Sino-North Korean relationship, which remains fundamentally stable even as it sits on the cusp of irreversible change. Through an examination of Beijing and Pyongyang’s mutual feelings of suppressed anger and ongoing dependency, and integrating new documents from the PRC Foreign Ministry Archive, Cathcart’s talk focused on concerns over North Korea’s growing nuclear confidence and refusal to reenter negotiations, changes in the bilateral discourse on North Korean refugees, and Chinese investment in North Korea. From China’s quiet role in keeping the Kim regime afloat, to cultural congruities with a Xi regime eager to highlight conservative credentials, to the growing ties between Beijing and Seoul, and discussion of possible collapse-and-exodus scenarios, this presentation opened the way toward a contemporary reevaluation of China’s historical relationship with North Korea. This event was co-sponsored by EASC, the Institute for Chinese Studies, and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies.
Focus on “Understanding China”

ICS continues lecture series on China at the crossroads in 2013-14

The Institute for Chinese Studies presented the “Understanding China—Its Roots and New Frontiers” lecture series for the 2013–2014 academic year. This series features as its theme China at the crossroads, in both time and space, and explores the critical juncture between imperial China and the post-imperial era from multiple perspectives, as well as highlights China on the world stage as the vanguard in Asia, in its role as a world leader and major political power.

In September 2013, ICS inaugurated the series with Julia Andrews’ (professor of history of art at The Ohio State University) lecture, “Pictorial Shanghai (Shanghai huabao, 1925-1933) and Creation of Shanghai’s Modern Visual Culture.” This lecture examined the seductive images of China’s new culture and society that emerge from the pages of the tabloid periodical Shanghai huabao (Pictorial Shanghai) from 1925 to 1933. Closely connected to Shanghai Art Academy, Shanghai huabao, by featuring in words and images the exhibitions, performances, and personal lives of both China’s artistic elite and its aspiring youth, created a complex and richly textured lifestyle into which its readers were lured.

In early November, ICS presented a lecture by Ying Zhang, assistant professor of history at The Ohio State University, on “Early-Modern Radical Potentials?: the Image Politics of the Restoration Society (Fushe).” The Restoration Society was a national organization active in the mid-seventeenth century that aimed to help its members succeed in examination studies and official placement. The Society played a significant role in late Ming politics by organizing young scholars in campaigns against certain powerful officials in the central government and in mobilizing to support sympathetic officials. This talk examined the “image trouble” of the Restoration Society in the late Ming by exploring topics such as the moral images the Restoration Society leaders projected, how they employed Confucian ethics in political struggles, and the impacts of their collective and individual actions on the Confucian moral-political discourse during the Ming-Qing dynastic transition.

Hsiao-wen Cheng, research associate on women’s studies and religion at the Harvard Divinity School, continued the lecture series with “Medicine, Exorcism, and Beyond: Contending Treatments on Sexual Desire and the Female Body in Song China.” When the Southern Song doctor Chen Ziming theorized the illness of “guafu” (or husband-less women), a contrived and yet not well-explained link between women’s reproductive bodies and sexual desire became apparent in the medical tradition. Meanwhile, zhiguai literature and popular anecdotes from the Six Dynasties to the Song show a different trajectory of the reconceptualization of female sexuality. Through juxtaposing sources of different genres and excavating the multivocality of each source, this lecture delineated how norms concerning female sexuality diverge greatly not simply from one type of source to another but even within one book compiled by a single author. This event was co-sponsored by the Department of History, Comparative Studies Department, Center for the Study of Religion, and Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS). Also as part of her visit, Cheng delivered a separate lecture, “Introduction to Chinese Religion in Pre-Modern China,” at Central State University, a historically black college in Southwestern Ohio.

In late November, R. Bin Wong, professor of Chinese economic history and director of the Asia Institute at UCLA, delivered “The Fiscal State: Modern Norm, General Model, or Historical Type of State?” This paper presented features of early modern, modern and contemporary Chinese fiscal practices to consider what is general and what is
specific about European practices in different historical eras. Wong argued that what is at stake for historians is the way in which they identify the common and distinctive features of their studies in relation to social theories that ground their expectations in Western practices.

ICS and the Center for Historical Research at OSU welcomed 2014 with a lecture by Julia Strauss, professor of Chinese politics at SOAS at the University of London. Her lecture, “Repertoires, Performances, and Institution Creation: Comparing Regime Consolidation in China and Taiwan, 1949-1955,” focused on institutional creation in China and Taiwan. Strauss expanded on Charles Tilly’s notions of “repertoire” to consider two crucial factors in the consolidation of otherwise unproven and/or outright illegitimate new regimes of the People’s Republic of China and the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the early 1950s. The piece concluded by linking these notions of repertoire and performance to campaign mobilization and institutionalization.

Also in January 2014, ICS and Department of History hosted Joseph Tse-Hei Lee, professor of history at Pace University. Dr. Lee’s lecture, titled “The Christian Century of South China: Recasting the Conversionary Process in Chaozhou, Guangdong Province,” addressed the localization of Christianity in the Chaozhou-speaking region of Guangdong Province. His lecture drew on archival materials and fieldwork to explore how rural Christians integrated Euro-American denominational churches into the lineage society, how they Christianized genealogies and ritual practices, and how they formed transnational ties to cope with changes in modern China.

In late January, ICS, in collaboration with the Institute for Japanese Studies and Literacy Studies@OSU, presented a lecture by Nan Ma Hartmann, assistant professor of Japanese Studies at Earlham College, on “Chinese Vernacular Narratives and Early Yomihon—Japanese Adaptation of the Story of Du Shi-niang.” Her lecture examined the reception of Chinese vernacular language and adaptations of vernacular narratives in Japan during the Edo period, with a specific focus on the works of Tsuga Teisho (1718-1794) who published three anthologies of stories, many of which were adapted from Ming vernacular narratives by Feng Menglong (1574-1645). The comparison of the Japanese adaptation to its source yields insights into how the process of translation and adaptation impacted Japanese popular literature.

In late February, Cong Ellen Zhang, associate professor of history at University of Virginia, presented, “The Problem of Commemorating: Epitaph Writing and Filial Expression in the Northern Song (960-1125).” Thousands of epitaphs (muzhiming) have survived from the Song Dynasty (960-1279). These documents consistently portray the deceased as filial sons, erudite scholars, capable officials, and generous clan and community leaders. Considering the nature and utility of these records, this tendency to speak well of the dead is hardly surprising. That these biographies were overwhelmingly celebratory does not necessarily mean that the writing process was free of contention and negotiation. On the contrary, epitaph-writing could be a major source of anxiety for all parties involved. To maintain a delicate balance between satisfying the deceased’s family and preserving his own authorial credentials proved a daunting task for the writer. The frustration expressed by leading literary figures of the time and the emphasis these men placed on the reliability of the funerary biographies that they authored further highlights the negotiation and compromises that occurred in the writing process.

All ICS lectures were sponsored in part by a US Department of Education Title VI grant for the East Asian Studies Center. For more information, contact Jeff Chan at chan.184@osu.edu.
Collaboration leads to series of events on Chinese linguistics

With the collaboration of the Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics (GACL), Department of Linguistics, and Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences, ICS hosted four events on Chinese linguistics during 2013-14.

First, ICS hosted San Duanmu, professor of linguistics at University of Michigan for “Words and Morphemes in Chinese and English.” The two largest languages in the world, in terms of speaker population and possibly in terms of vocabulary size, Chinese and English are also typologically unrelated. Noting that any similarities between them may shed light on common properties across languages, Duanmu reported on his recent research that has yielded new empirical data.

In November, ICS hosted Feng-hsi Liu, associate professor of Chinese linguistics in the Department of East Asian Studies at the University of Arizona. Liu presented “The Count-mass Distinction among Non-concrete Nouns in Chinese.” Liu focused on how the count-mass distinction is made among abstract nouns and event nominals. She considered whether the distinction for non-concrete nouns plays a role in grammar and showed that the distinction has syntactic consequences. It accounted for certain patterns of argument realization that are observed in nominalization.

Jing Yang from The Ohio State University’s Department of Speech and Hearing Sciences presented “Vowel Production in Prelingually Deafened Children with Cochlear Implants” in February 2014. Cochlear implants (CIs) have greatly improved speech recognition in profoundly hearing-impaired children. However, due to the limited spectral resolution of CI devices, the compromised neural survival of the auditory system, and impaired storage of working memory, CI children may still differ from normal hearing (NH) children in the fine phonetic features in speech production. Her study provided a detailed comparison of vowel acoustic features in native Mandarin-speaking children with CIs and age matched NH children to further our understanding of the speech production in CI children.

The linguistic lectures wrapped up with Li Xu, associate professor of communication sciences and disorders from Ohio University. His lecture, “Lexical Tone Development in Children with Cochlear Implants,” addressed that while CI is successful in providing excellent speech recognition, poor representation of pitch information in CIs hinders pitch perception and affects perception of lexical tones in cochlear implant users who speak tonal languages. In the present series of studies, lexical tone perception and production were assessed. Factors that contribute to performance variation were also examined.

China-focused STEM lecture series features three speakers

The Institute for Chinese Studies featured several OSU faculty and researchers for a STEM-focused series in 2013-14. First, Rachel Beattie, postdoctoral researcher for the Western Reserve Reading Project and the Laboratory of Brain Processes (LOBES) at The Ohio State University, lectured on “Predicting Second Language Acquisition: A Comparison of Chinese and English Speakers.” Beattie’s neuroimaging study aimed to expand the understanding of second language acquisition by controlling the ways in which participants learn an artificially created language and by studying individual differences—particularly differences in language backgrounds and cognitive abilities.

In mid-October, Daniel Sui, professor and chair of geography and Distinguished Professor of Social & Behavioral Sciences at The Ohio State University, gave a lecture titled “The Paradox of China 2.0: Freedom within the Great Firewall and Growing Networked Authoritarianism in the People’s Republic of China.” Using geospatial information as the primary area of focus, this talk reviewed the tension between the online freedom Chinese netizens have within the great firewall and the growing Internet censorship state apparatuses impose on online activities.

Next, ICS presented a lecture by Zhong-Lin Lu, Distinguished Professor of Social and Behavioral Science, Professor of Psychology, and Director of the Center for Cognitive and Behavioral Brain Imaging at The Ohio State University, on “Neural Basis of Learning to Read a Second Language: Evidence from Artificial Language Training Studies.” Lu’s team used an artificial language training paradigm and functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging (fMRI) techniques to investigate (1) the neural correlates of learning to read L2, (2) the interaction between L1 and L2, and (3) the neural predictors of L2 learning. Lu’s studies refined the two neural pathways associated with addressed and assembled phonologies, clarified the interaction between L1 and L2, and identified neurofunctional predictors for visual and auditory word learning.
Focus on “Japan in Historical Context”

IJS lecture series brings diverse expertise to campus

The Institute for Japanese Studies kicked off its “Japan in Historical Context” lecture series with John H. Davis, Jr., assistant professor of Japanese and East Asian history at Denison University. Dr. Davis’ lecture, titled “How Burakumin became Japanese,” took place on October 4. In it, he discussed how in the West burakumin are often defined straightforwardly as descendants of Japan’s outcaste communities. However, genealogical definitions of burakumin limit our understanding in critical ways. Drawing on a range of ethnographic data and examples, this presentation problematizes the category of “burakumin” and documents how both the identification and identity of those labeled with this term have shifted within Japanese history along with the evolving institutions, ideologies, and practices used to define the Japanese population and construct the Japanese nation (and its “others”). This event was co-sponsored by US, EASC, Department of History, and a US Department Education Title VI Grant.

Dr. Lee Butler, independent scholar of Medieval and Modern Japan visited next to deliver a talk titled “Villagers at Work and Battle: Hine Estate, Japan, 1501-1504.” On November 1, Dr. Butler discussed how Japan’s sixteenth century is usually portrayed as the great age of the samurai, warriors who embodied a central part of the Japanese ethos. He argued that the picture is exaggerated, that for much of the period other things of more importance were occurring than battles among samurai, and that other classes, such as the peasants, were engaged in activities that were more historically significant. His presentation emphasized these points through examining the diary of Kujo Masamoto, a high courtier who spent four years on a rural estate at the beginning of the century, and whose diary offers unparalleled insights into village life at the time. This event was co-sponsored by US, EASC, Department of History, and a US Department Education Title VI Grant.

On November 8, US hosted Dr. Douglas Slaymaker, professor of Japanese at the University of Kentucky for a talk titled “The Wandering Kaneko Mitsuhara: Poetics, Relation and the Web of Islands.” Kaneko Mitsuharu (1895-1975), poet, painter and memoirist, is famous for his outsider position in Japanese letters and culture. Dr. Slaymaker examined his representations and his travel through Southeast Asia in the 1930s, focusing on the sections recounting the passage to, and from, the European metropole. He used the webs and the poetics of relation proposed by Édouard Glissant to analyze Kaneko’s writing. This event was co-sponsored by US, EASC, Department of History, and a US Department Education Title VI Grant.

Dr. Shinobu Kitayama, professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Michigan, delivered a talk, “Cultural Neuroscience: Learning from Both Culture and the Brain,” on November 25. Dr. Kitayama discussed how cultural neuroscience is an emerging field of research that examines the interdependencies among culture, brain, and genes, with the ultimate goal of elucidating how the mind functions in varying socio-cultural contexts. By investigating both brain plasticity and genetic variability in differing societies and cultures, the lecture sought to overcome the nature-nurture dichotomy that has plagued social and behavioral sciences for so long. This event was co-sponsored by US, EASC, Behavioral Decision Making Initiative, Department of Political Science, and a US Department of Education Title VI Grant.

On February 6, US hosted an event on the Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe’s economic policy dubbed “Abenomics” which featured two speakers, Dr. James E. Auer, director of the Center for U.S.-Japan Studies and Cooperation at Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies, and Dr. Gene Park, assistant professor at Loyola Marymount University. In Dr. Auer’s talk, “Is Prime Minister Shinzo Abe Leading Japan Back to Militarism?,” he discussed the history of US-Japan defense ties since World War II and how Prime Minister Abe may or may not be different from his predecessors. Dr. Park’s talk, “Abenomics: Beyond the Buzzword,” discussed not only how Abenomics ended more than a decade of deflation, pushed the stock market sharply upwards, and accelerated economic growth, but the many challenges that remain. This event was hosted by US and the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio (JASCO) and co-sponsored by a “Voice of Japan” Speaker Grant from the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership, East Asian Studies Center, and a US Department of Education Title VI grant.
Focus on arts outreach

ICS hosts New Year’s celebrations for community, students, faculty

In collaboration with the Chinese Culture Link (CCL) and the Ohio Contemporary Chinese School (OCCS) and a dozen national and local organizations, the Institute for Chinese Studies co-sponsored the 2014 7th Annual Ohio Chinese Festival at Westerville Central High School on Saturday, February 1. The Chinese Festival presented many facets of Chinese culture. There were three shows staged, with performances from professional and amateur artists from all over Ohio. The shows featured a variety of artistic forms, including Peking opera, lion dances, ballet, traditional Chinese instruments, Western musical instruments, Chinese ethnic dances, martial arts, choir, popular songs and music. Informative demonstrations showcased traditional Chinese arts including calligraphy, painting, colorful costume shows from different minority groups, a tea ceremony, and an exhibition of spectacular scenic photography from China. Other activities included sports competitions, children’s games, and Chinese cooking demonstrations.

Next, on February 3, the Institute for Chinese Studies co-sponsored a well-attended event for the campus of East Asian Languages & Literatures (DEALL), Pi Delta Psi Fraternity, National East Asian Languages Resource Center and Students Hosting Overseas Chinese Culture Connection.

Finally, ICS ushered in the Year of the Horse with its Fourth Annual Chinese New Year Banquet. The celebration took place in February 2014 at Sunflower Chinese Restaurant, and brought together faculty, staff, students and community members, allowing them to mingle in a casual and festive setting while enjoying a traditional feast. Party-goers were treated to a Chinese flute piece played by Alexandra (Sasha) Draggeim (a graduate student in Chinese pedagogy). Zeyuan Wu, a graduate student studying Chinese pre-modern literature, played “Flowing Water” on her guqin.
OSU alumnus Hong Shen revived through three events

In honor of alumnus Hong Shen, and the recently donated collection of his works, three events were held in November to celebrate his extensive career. The events included a revival performance of his early work, “The Wedded Husband,” first performed at OSU over 100 years ago, along with a symposium to discuss Hong Shen and the intermediality in modern Chinese cultural production, and a film screening of one of his screenplays.

On November 7, ICS hosted a film screening of Shen’s film, “Shanghai Old and New.” The early sound film, released in 1936, depicts the social lives of residents of a small Shanghai apartment building.

The revival student performance of Hong Shen’s play, “The Wedded Husband,” produced by doctoral candidate Man He (DEALL), and directed by Steven Liu (University of British Columbia) took place on November 16 and 17 at the Roy Bowen Theater in the Drake Union, with two showings each day. Shen’s play was first performed at Ohio State in 1919, and has not been staged since its premiere in the University Hall Chapel.

On November 18, leading scholars of modern Chinese drama and film discussed Hong Shen’s contributions to a variety of media forms and his cultural impact on modern Chinese media production, for the “Hong Shen and the Modern Mediasphere in Republican Era China,” symposium.

These events were sponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, the East Asian Studies Center and Institute for Chinese Studies, the Department of Theatre, the Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics, the Graduate Students for East Asian Languages and Literatures, and the College of Arts and Sciences.

Arts initiative brings Korean cultural assets to campus for folk music performance

On October 10, the Institute for Korean Studies, in collaboration with Chan Park, professor of East Asian Languages and Literatures, delivered a Korean music and dance performance to a packed house in the Ohio Union’s US Bank Conference Theater. The performance, titled “Songs of Living and Dying: An Evening of Korean Music,” featured South Jeolla Regional Cultural Asset No. 40 Cho Ohwhan, director of the Jindo Folk Performing Arts Company and Preserver of the Jindo Island Fishing Song, and National Cultural Asset No. 8 Go Mikyoung, assistant teacher and producer of the Jindo Folk Performing Arts Company and member of the South Jeolla Regional Ganggangsullae dance. The performance showcased traditional Korean folk songs, dances and percussion from Korea’s southwest region, particularly the island of Jindo—a community of fishing and farming, with a strong folkloric and ritualistic tradition. The songs, with lyrics vividly depicting the realities of living and dying, labor and leisure, are reminiscent of Korea’s past.

LEFT: PROFESSOR CHAN PARK AND IKS DIRECTOR MITCH LERNER CELEBRATE THE SUCCESSFUL PERFORMANCE.
Faculty News

In Memoriam: Samuel C. Chu, professor of history and first director of East Asian Studies at The Ohio State University

by Philip C. Brown, Department of History, The Ohio State University with Christopher Reed, Stephen Kennedy and Liyan Liu

Samuel C. (Sam) Chu, professor of history and first director of the East Asian Studies Center at The Ohio State University, died on Friday, August 30, 2013. During his career he actively promoted the growth of East Asian studies at The Ohio State University, in the Midwest, throughout the United States, and across the Pacific. His scholarship is widely known in the field of modern Chinese history. Most prominently, he was the author of *Reformer in Modern China: Chang Chien* (1965), together with some twenty articles and book chapters. In addition, Professor Chu co-edited and contributed to *Li Hung-Chang and China's Early Modernization* (1997, with K.C. Liu) as well as *Madame Chiang Kai-shek and Her China* (2005, with Thomas Kennedy).

Professor Samuel Chu was born in 1929 in Shanghai, the son of the Guomindang officer Zhu Shimin (Chu Shih-min) and Grace Zia Chu, a Wellesley College classmate and confidante of Soong Mei-ling (Mme. Chiang Kai-shek). Sam received his early education at Shanghai’s McTyeire Elementary School. He lived in the USSR during the late 1930s when his father was military attaché at China’s embassy. Sam’s reminiscences of his boyhood included having seen Joseph Stalin across the room. His family moved to Washington, DC in the early 1940s where his father again served as attaché. After graduating from Woodrow Wilson High School in Washington, Sam continued his education at Dartmouth College. He eventually earned graduate degrees from Columbia University (MA, 1953, and PhD, 1958), studying under C. Martin Wilbur.

In 1958, prior to taking his first academic positions at SUNY New Paltz and Bucknell University, Sam worked on the Human Relations Area files (an internationally renowned database that facilitates cross-cultural study) at Yale University. In addition to teaching, Sam began his administrative career at Bucknell, managing its Summer Asian Studies Institute. Sam then moved to the Department of History at the University of Pittsburgh where he continued his administrative work (Chair, Committee on Asian Studies; Executive Secretary, Council on Asian Studies) alongside teaching modern Chinese history. During this time, he was a visiting professor at his alma mater (1964) and at the University of Michigan (1967-1968), both posts indicating the regard in which he was held. He moved to The Ohio State University in 1969 where he served until his retirement in 1995. During his career, Sam received research and conference support grants from the Fulbright program, the Social Science Research Council, the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation, the Committee on Scholarly Communication with the People’s Republic of China and the American Council of Learned Societies, among others.

As a teacher at Ohio State, Sam took special steps to ensure that even in large lectures he made personal contact with students. Stephen F. Dale, who co-taught a large Asian history course with him, remembers that in addition to presenting engaging lectures, in every class Sam scheduled appointments with seven or eight students solely for the purpose of getting to know each and every student by the time the term ended. Liyan Liu (Georgetown College), one of a number of graduate students who worked with Sam at Ohio State, warmly recalls the support and encouragement she received from him, support that continued even after he retired and she had established her own career.

Throughout this time Sam served in many regional and national academic and advisory posts. In 1975, early in the years of normalization of relations between the United States and the People’s Republic of China, he was a member of the US Solid State Physics Delegation to China. He was a member of the Board of Advisors of the Center for Chinese Research Materials. He served as a Councilor for the United Board for Christian Higher Education in Asia from 1981 to 1985 and also in a number of other advisory capacities for both college and university associations and individual institutions.

Over the course of his career Sam applied himself to fostering better relations among people of different ethnic and national backgrounds in the US as well as between the people of the US and China. As part of these efforts, Sam served as a Danforth Associate for eight years, during which time he worked on projects focused on American college and university campuses (1975-1983).

As much or more than his scholarship and professional service, many colleagues and students remember Sam for his kind and gentlemanly manner, his sense of humor and his generous encouragement of their work. As co-author and fellow editor, Thomas Kennedy notes, “His contributions to the study of China abound in the bibliographies but the people whom he helped and influenced in the field of Asian Studies are a living tribute to his work in the field.”
Dr. Meiyu Hsieh, assistant professor, history, hsieh.230@osu.edu
Professor Hsieh is a historian of early imperial China. Her research and teaching interests are broadly centered on four themes: 1) state formation and empire building in East Asia from the second century B.C.E. to the tenth century C.E.; 2) pre-modern socio-cultural encounters between East, North, and Central Asia; 3) the influence of modern nationalism on the interpretation of ancient history; and 4) Chinese paleography, with a special emphasis on bamboo- and wood-strip documents produced in the early imperial era. Her dissertation project, Viewing the Han Empire from the Edge, is an attempt to place the Han Empire into its larger East Eurasian context. She received her MA from National Taiwan University and her PhD from Stanford University. Before joining the Department of History at OSU, she was a postdoctoral lecturer in the Introduction to the Humanities program at Stanford University for two years.

Dr. Namiko Kunimoto, assistant professor, history of art, kunimoto.3@osu.edu
Professor Kunimoto is a specialist in modern and contemporary Japanese art, with research interests in gender, urbanization, photography, performance art, transnationalism, and nation formation. She completed her PhD in 2010 at the University of California, Berkeley. She worked as an assistant professor at American University in Washington DC from the fall of 2010 until joining OSU this year. Her recent publications include “Tanaka Atsuko’s Electric Dress and the Circuits of Subjectivity” (The Art Bulletin, September 2013) and “Shiraga Kazuo: The Hero and Concrete Violence” (Art History, February 2013). Other significant publications include work on photography, such as “Traveler-as-Lama Photography and the Fantasy of Transformation in Tibet” in Trans Asia Photography Review (October 2011). She is currently working on her book manuscript, Portraits of the Sun: Gender and Nation in Postwar Japanese Art.

Dr. Max Woodworth, assistant professor, geography, woodworth.42@osu.edu
Professor Woodworth is an urban geographer with a regional specialization in China and East Asia more broadly. He is interested in the development of small cities of China’s interior and in the development paths of the country’s deindustrializing rust-belt cities and its resource-extraction boomtowns. He also has keen interests in Taiwan’s social and political development and in East Asian popular culture. Before joining OSU, he earned his degree from UC Berkeley in 2013, and before that, worked as a reporter in Taipei. At OSU, he will continue his research on China’s lower-tier cities in the country’s Inner Asian northern and western borderlands.

Dr. Kerim Yasar, assistant professor, East Asian languages and literatures, yasar.6@osu.edu
Professor Yasar’s research explores the shifting boundaries, vectors, and valences of language and mediality in Japan’s modern period. He is currently completing a book manuscript entitled Electrifi ed Voices: Auditory Technology and Culture in Prewar Japan, which is a sonic archeology and cultural history of auditory technologies in Japan from 1868 to 1945. He reconstructs the formative moments when those technologies entered Japan, while considering the roles they played in language reform, literary and cinematic practice, subject formation, cultural memory, and nationalism. He also has two new projects in the early stages: One treats literary practices in Japan in the digital age, while another explores the affective dimensions and formal typologies of gesture and physical expressivity in Japanese cinema. Finally, he is deeply immersed in the theory and practice of translation, with translations of two novels and over 80 feature-length films to his credit, including masterworks by directors such as Kurosawa, Ozu, and Oshima. He comes to Ohio State after having taught at Boston University, Princeton, and Notre Dame, and in his “free” time is a serious amateur photographer.
Faculty Updates

Namiko Kunimoto (assistant professor, history of art) joined the faculty of The Ohio State University in Fall 2013. Previously, she was an assistant professor at American University in Washington, DC. She obtained her PhD from the University of California, Berkeley in 2010. Her recent publications include “Tanaka Atsuko's Electric Dress and the Circuits of Subjectivity” in The Art Bulletin, 95, no. 3 (September 2013): 465-483; “Shiraga Kazuo: The Hero and Concrete Violence” in Art History, 36, no. 1 (February 2013): 154-179 (peer-reviewed); and Review: “Gutai’s Ascent” in Art Journal (Vol. 72, No. 2 (Summer 2013): 114. Recent talks include “Katsura Yuki and the Allegorical Impulse” at the Museum of Contemporary Art, Tokyo, June 2013; “The Tropes of Masculinity in the Art of the Gutai” at Johns Hopkins University East Asian Studies Speaker Series, April 2013; and “Ai Wei-Wei’s Art of Politics” at the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, February 2013.

Karen Mancl (professor, food, agricultural and biological engineering) was a featured speaker at the 2013 “China Exchange” of the Association of Overseas Chinese Agricultural and Biological Engineers. At their annual meeting in Kansas City on July 22, she presented her work on “Wastewater Treatment in Rural China: From Research to Practice.”

Richard Moore (professor, environment and natural resources) delivered a talk at Tohoku University in Sendai, Japan on February 20, 2014. Resulting from a collaboration with a team of economists focusing on the connections between brain science and social sciences, the talk was titled “The Mental Mapping of Amish Farming Production, Social Organization, and Nature in Ohio, USA.”

Mineharu Nakayama (professor, East Asian languages and literatures) has published three co-authored articles: “Locality in L2 Japanese and English” (with N. Yoshimura, K. Sawasaki, & H. Shimizu) in S. Stavrakaki, M. Lalioti, and P. Konstantinopoulou (eds.), Advances in Language Acquisition, pp. 375-385, Cambridge Scholars Publishing; “The development of long-distance zibun: Roles of L1 and L2 in L3 acquisition” (with N. Yoshimura, K. Sawasaki, A. Fujimori, & B. Kahraman) in The Proceedings of the 14th Tokyo Conference on Psycholinguistics, pp. 221-236, Tokyo: Hituzi Syobo; and “Acquisition of English perfections by Japanese adult learners.” (with A. Fujimori, N. Yoshimura, K. Sawasaki, & S. Takeda) in Ars Linguistica 20. He has also presented two co-authored conference papers: “Morphosyntactic-semantic mappings in Japanese-English interlanguage,” (with N. Yoshimura, K. Sawasaki, A. Fujimori, & S. Kawasaki) at EUROSLA 2013 (University of Amsterdam) and “Torukogo bogowasha-ni yoru nihongodaimeishi-no kaishaku (Pronominal interpretations by Turkish speaking learners of Japanese)” (with B. Kahraman) at the the 24th annual conference of the Japanese Association of Second Language Acquisition (Hiroshima University). He has also successfully renewed the memorandum of understanding (i.e., institutional collaboration) with the University of Shizuoka, and established a program between the Institute for Japanese Studies and the College of Education and Human Ecology at Ohio State, which brings one Shizuoka student to OSU every year.

Zhiguo Xie (assistant professor, East Asian languages and literatures) had several publications in the 2013 academic year. One of his papers, “Focus, (non-)exhaustivity, and intervention effects in wh-in-situ argument questions” appeared in the winter 2013 issue of The Linguistic Review. Another paper, “Where is the standard? An analysis of size adjectives as degree modifiers at the semantic-pragmatic interface,” has been accepted by Language and Linguistics. He also delivered two conference talks in 2013, one at the 21st meeting of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics, and the other at the 25th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics. The titles of the talks were “The degree use of you in Mandarin Chinese: Its structure, meaning and theoretical implications” and “The yu comparative construction in Chinese: Case assignment and evaluativity,” respectively.

Etsuyo Yuasa (associate professor, East Asian languages and literatures) published an edited volume, titled Individualized Instruction in East Asian Languages, from OSU’s Foreign Language Publications. The volume includes three chapters by DEALL faculty: “Materials Development for Individualized Instruction” by Mari Noda, “Individualized Korean Language Instruction for a Mixed Class of Heritage and Nonheritage Learners” by Danielle Ooyoung Pyun, and “Meeting Diverse Needs: Individualized Instruction for Introductory and Advanced Japanese” by Etsuyo Yuasa.

Congratulations to East Asia-related faculty members on their promotions

Two East Asia-related faculty members received promotions, effective September 1, 2013.

PROMOTION TO PROFESSOR:
Mark Bender, East Asian languages and literatures
Judy Wu, history
Julia Andrews receives International Convention of Asia Scholars Book Prize in the Humanities

The Art of Modern China by Julia F. Andrews (professor, history of art) and OSU History of Art alumnus Dr. Kuiyi Shen received the 2013 International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS) Book Prize in the Humanities. The award was presented at the ICAS in June hosted by the University of Macau and held in the Venetian Macao-Resort-Hotel. More than 1,200 Asia specialists attended.

Over 250 publications from 60 publishers worldwide competed for the 2013 ICAS book prizes in the Humanities and Social Sciences. The selection committee for the prize deemed The Art of Modern China to be “extremely well-written, a superb work that achieves that most difficult of tasks: a single volume that will inform newcomers and specialists alike. A delight to read, it can truly be said that if you read only one work on the subject, this should be it.”

Zhiguo Xie awarded the IACL Young Scholar Award

Zhiguo Xie, assistant professor of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, was awarded the prestigious Young Scholar Award by the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL) at its 21st annual conference, held on June 7-9, 2013 in Taipei, Taiwan. The award recognizes Professor Xie’s theoretical research on the interaction of possessive verbs and degree constructions. He is the first and only recipient of this award since 2010, after three consecutive years with no awardees. In addition, he was shortlisted for the same award in 2009, when he was a PhD candidate at Cornell.

IACL holds three international award competitions each year in conjunction with its annual conferences, which are hosted by different institutions around the globe. The YSA award that Professor Xie received was created in 1994 to “promote, recognize, and encourage scholarship” by researchers of Chinese linguistics under 35 years of age and below the rank of associate professor.

Student and Alumni News

EASC welcomes new students to Interdisciplinary EAS MA Program

The East Asian Studies Center serves as administrative home to the Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies MA program which is led by a graduate studies committee (GSC) of six faculty members from diverse fields with Professor Philip Brown currently serving as graduate studies chair. EASC and the GSC were pleased to welcome three new students to the program in 2013-2014.

Adam Gerval, from Lawrence, Kansas, graduated with honors from the University of Kansas where he studied history with a specialization in American and Japanese history and a minor in Japanese. His research interests include modern Japanese history, Japanese economics and international trade, State Shinto and Yasukuni Shrine during World War II era, and the social-state relations during the Meiji era.

Alexander Jania, from Austin, Texas, comes to OSU from Baylor University where he received a degree in history with a Japanese minor. His interests include Japanese folklore and folk practices from the Mid-Edo to Meiji/Early 20th century Japan and the effects of modernization and western contact on Japanese folkloric beliefs and practices.

Spencer Stewart, from Sandy, Utah, received his undergraduate degree from Brigham Young University in East Asian Studies with a minor in Chinese. His research interests include modern Chinese history, contemporary social issues in China, and political issues from the mid-nineteenth century to the present.

Student Updates


Julia Andrews receives International Convention of Asia Scholars Book Prize in the Humanities

The Art of Modern China by Julia F. Andrews (professor, history of art) and OSU History of Art alumnus Dr. Kuiyi Shen received the 2013 International Convention of Asia Scholars (ICAS) Book Prize in the Humanities. The award was presented at the ICAS in June hosted by the University of Macau and held in the Venetian Macao-Resort-Hotel. More than 1,200 Asia specialists attended.

Over 250 publications from 60 publishers worldwide competed for the 2013 ICAS book prizes in the Humanities and Social Sciences. The selection committee for the prize deemed The Art of Modern China to be “extremely well-written, a superb work that achieves that most difficult of tasks: a single volume that will inform newcomers and specialists alike. A delight to read, it can truly be said that if you read only one work on the subject, this should be it.”

Zhiguo Xie awarded the IACL Young Scholar Award

Zhiguo Xie, assistant professor of Chinese in the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, was awarded the prestigious Young Scholar Award by the International Association of Chinese Linguistics (IACL) at its 21st annual conference, held on June 7-9, 2013 in Taipei, Taiwan. The award recognizes Professor Xie’s theoretical research on the interaction of possessive verbs and degree constructions. He is the first and only recipient of this award since 2010, after three consecutive years with no awardees. In addition, he was shortlisted for the same award in 2009, when he was a PhD candidate at Cornell.

IACL holds three international award competitions each year in conjunction with its annual conferences, which are hosted by different institutions around the globe. The YSA award that Professor Xie received was created in 1994 to “promote, recognize, and encourage scholarship” by researchers of Chinese linguistics under 35 years of age and below the rank of associate professor.

Student and Alumni News

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Student Updates

Spotlight on Dr. Stuart Birkby, PhD 2012

“My attraction to East Asia was first sparked in 1999, when my wife and I adopted a baby girl from Hunan, China. Then in 2004, I was chosen by Minru Li of Ohio State to participate in the first term of the Wuhan University Summer Intensive English program, which brings educators from across the US to teach interactive, theme-based English lessons in China.

The following year, I began my doctoral program in foreign-second language education, with a multidisciplinary specialization in East Asian Studies, and additional coursework in the Chinese language. My studies at Ohio State opened up opportunities for me to teach both at Wuhan University (2004, 2005) and National Pusan University in South Korea (2006). But for Ohio State, I would not have been able to engage in multiple, multicultural experiences during the course of my doctoral studies. I received my PhD from Ohio State in June 2012.

I am grateful to have received several scholarships from Ohio State, including the Phyllis Krumm Memorial International Scholarship, the Sonkin-Bergman-Wasserman Families Scholarship for International Understanding and Peace, and the Louise Zung-Nyi Loh Memorial Scholarship Fund in East Asian Studies, all either through the Office of International Affairs or the East Asian Studies Center. I also received scholarships from Taiwan’s Ministry of Education and a fellowship from the US National Security Education Program, which combined, enabled me to carry out dissertation research in Taipei. This added to my multicultural experiences and helped me develop my training as a teacher and researcher focused on English-language pedagogy as it relates to East Asian students.

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Spotlight on Dr. Stuart Birky, PhD 2012  CONTINUED FROM PAGE 22

My international experiences and passion for teaching have led me to my current position, as senior lecturer at Assumption University, Thailand’s oldest international university. I was attracted to the university’s major focus on teaching and learning, and its move toward taking a larger role as a research institute. Consequently, I see my role as supporting the university’s Institute of English Language Learning (IELE) not only through my teaching but also by introducing techniques of classroom-based research to the other faculty in the IELE. These faculty members in turn communicate the excellence of Assumption University’s English-language program to the rest of Southeast Asia and internationally through conference presentations and publications.

Since graduating from Ohio State, I’ve chosen to give back to the East Asian Studies Center because they provided me with the knowledge and resources to experience East Asia beyond the classroom and to gain a greater understanding of the effects of the English language on the unique cultures that make up that part of the world. Giving back is important because I hope Ohio State can continue to provide the opportunities I was given, to enable future educators to gain a better understanding of East Asia’s role in the greater international community.”

“The East Asian Studies Center…provided me with the knowledge and resources to experience East Asia beyond the classroom…”

Dr. Stuart Birkby, senior lecturer, Assumption University, Thailand

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To support and promote scholarship on East Asia, connect the community with East Asia, or inspire lifelong learning about East Asia, consider making a gift to the East Asian Studies Center. Join a community of individuals dedicated to supporting original thought and action in the study of East Asia. Tax-deductible gifts can be designated to the EASC or to country-specific institutes.

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