

EASC *expo*sure



Title VI NRC/FLAS
East Asian Studies Center
Office of International Affairs
The Ohio State University

Spring 2008 Edition

Institute for Chinese Studies
Institute for Japanese Studies
Korean Studies Initiative

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LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

It has been three years since a newly created M.A. program in interdisciplinary East Asian studies was approved by the Ohio Board of Regents. Since then, the EAS Graduate Committee, successively chaired by Professors **Phil Brown, J.J. Nakayama**, and currently **Naomi Fukumori**, together with the assistance of the Center's Assistant Director, **Amy Carey**, has grown the program to attract a highly-qualified pool of students.

As word about the program has spread, applicants residing all over the U.S. and abroad have applied. With our first student admitted in 2005, the newest cohort has increased to ten students. Incoming EAS students have regularly garnered University and Graduate Enrichment Fellowships; they have also fared well in the highly competitive Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowship competition. Some students have successfully received nationally competitive grants such as the NSEP Boren Fellowship.

The EAS degree requires students to complete at least three years of Asian language training by the time they graduate. One of the outstanding strengths of OSU's Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures rests on its ability to deliver five levels of Japanese, Chinese and Korean language in a variety of intensive and regular formats. Hence, some EAS students arrived with only one year of prior Asian language study, but they will graduate with fifth-year competency by the end of the two-year program, thanks to the intensive academic year and summer language opportunities available at OSU and through study abroad. Others already arrived with considerable prior training, but were able to further their proficiency to superior levels. Moreover, some incoming students plan to avail themselves of the opportunity to study both literary and colloquial Tibetan, thanks to our videodelivery courseshare arrangement with Dr. **Gareth Sparham** at the University of Michigan. Quite a few EAS students have pursued simultaneous study of two East Asian languages. Such preparations bode well for future success, irrespective of whether our graduates will pursue professional or research careers.

Thanks to a wide array of faculty expertise in political science, history, history of art and DEALL, among others, the fields of study of our past, current and prospective EAS students are very diverse indeed. Specializations extend from research on water management in rural China to the aesthetic conventions of Japanese anime, from the historical nexus between Korean and Japanese art to the Jesuit presence in late imperial China. The required "Introduction to East Asian Studies" course provides an opportunity for EAS students to interact with each other and with graduate students from other departments, thus enriching each other's learning through enhanced disciplinary awareness and interdisciplinary exchange. When I taught this course this past spring, the students inspired each other to excel, producing strong papers on topics ranging from the impact of Maoism in the U.S. to current congressional views of China to the literary, from scientific translation practices of Chinese, European and American scholars to the development of modern Soviet sinology, from environmental thought in China to the changing regulations for foreign law firms in Japan. Such diversity represents more than the sum of its parts.

While the faculty engage EAS students through teaching, advising and research opportunities, EASC regularly organizes academic enrichment events as well as career events. EAS students have attended the many lecture and film events organized by the various EASC units and have also frequently met with outside speakers over lunch. This past week, EASC together with a number of other campus units, organized a whole week of career events that brought prospective employers to campus and included workshops on different career paths. With its emphasis on linguistic training, disciplinary work and interdisciplinary perspectives, the EAS MA program promises to train graduates who will contribute significantly to understanding of Asia in a variety of academic and professional settings, thus leveraging OSU's international resources to create a viable and vibrant future for all.

Patricia Sieber
Director, East Asian Studies Center and Institute for Chinese Studies
Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures



CENTER NEWS

EASC welcomes new Assistant Director for Chinese Studies



The East Asian Studies Center is pleased to welcome a new staff member, **Jeffrey Chan**. Beginning in mid-May, Jeff will be serving as Assistant Director of the Institute for Chinese Studies.

Jeff holds an M.A. in International Studies with a focus on China from

the University of Washington and a B.A. in East Asian Studies from Oberlin College. He has spent two summers at the Inter-University Program at Tsinghua University in Beijing, China.

From 2002 to 2004, Jeff was an Oberlin Shansi Fellow, teaching at Yunnan University in China. Upon his return, he served as a Shansi Returned Fellow in Oberlin, Ohio, where he assisted in planning and hosting various seminars and events and training of future Shansi fellows.

In his new role at EASC, Jeff will develop academic, academic enrichment and outreach programs in Chinese studies for OSU faculty and students and for related constituencies in the state of Ohio, in the U.S. and abroad.

New titles available from EASC Media Library

The East Asian Studies Center offers hundreds of titles from our Media Library to OSU faculty, students and central Ohio K-12 educators for use as in-class teaching tools. The collection includes both fiction and non-fiction titles on East Asia, China, Japan and Korea in DVD, VHS and VCD formats. All titles are available for two-week rentals, free of charge.

New acquisitions include:

- Islam Asia Modernity 1*
- Islam Asia Modernity 2: Gender, Sexuality, Body*
- Islam Asia Modernity 3: Arts and National Cultures*
- Islam Asia Modernity 4: Masculine Identities*
- Islam Asia Modernity 5: Education and Legal Subjects*
- Islam Asia Modernity 6: Politics of Knowledge*
- The Road We Walk Together*
- Japan's Peace Constitution*
- Nanjing: Memory and Oblivion*
- Senso Daughters*

To make a reservation, browse our list of titles or search by title, genre or country, visit our Media Library website at:

http://easc.osu.edu/contents/media_library.html

Teacher training initiatives

The East Asian Studies Center offered in-depth seminars on "Teaching about Asia" for teachers of grades 6-12 in Northeastern and Southeastern Ohio this spring. The National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA), generously funded by the Freeman Foundation, is a ten-week seminar series that provides participants with the knowledge, resources and expert guidance needed to incorporate or enhance curriculum about East Asia in their classrooms.

Kent State University Professor **Dennis Hart** and Dr. **Young Rae Oum** led the seminar in Akron while Marietta College professors **Luding Tong** and **Matthew Young** led the seminar in Marietta.

Seminar participants learned the history, culture, art, politics, current events, literature and more of China, Japan and Korea. They participated in discussions and activities that showcased trends, highlighted similarities and differ-

ences, and stimulated thought-provoking dialogue on Asia and the U.S. Upon completion of the seminar, the participants translated the knowledge they gained into three lesson plans—one each on China, Japan and Korea.

These lesson plans, and hundreds of others, are available for teachers on the newly-designed NCTA website:

<http://ncta.osu.edu>

UPCOMING SEMINARS:

January-April 2009 Sites

- Central Ohio
- Southwestern Ohio

September-November 2009 Sites

- Northwestern Ohio
- Southeastern Ohio



Focus on Inter-Asian Relations

The East Asian Studies Center held a series of events on inter-Asian relations in 2007-08. Our postdoctoral researcher **Kwang-Kyoon Yeo**, an urban anthropologist with interests in transnational migration in East Asia, taught three courses for OSU undergraduates and graduate students and was involved in our academic enrichment activities pertaining to inter-Asian relations. Some of those activities are highlighted below.

EASC screens “Silence Broken” and offers discussion with film director



The East Asian Studies Center, in collaboration with Kent State University, hosted acclaimed documentarian and author Dr. Dai Sil Kim-Gibson for several discussions and screenings of her award-winning film, *Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women*, from April 17 to 20, 2008.

Kim-Gibson, an independent filmmaker born in North Korea during Japanese colonial rule, has spent the last 20 years documenting the issues facing Koreans throughout the world—both past and present. Her film *Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women* records Korean women’s accounts of being forced into sexual servitude by the Japanese Imperial Military during World War II. Combining the first-person testimonies of former Korean comfort women with contravening interviews of Japanese soldiers, recruiters and contemporary scholars, the film depicts

the injustice still inflicted on these women who seek a formal apology for the “crimes against humanity” committed against them from the Japanese government, which continues to deny any offense.

This multi-stop Ohio tour of the film began at The Ohio State University where more than 65 attendees watched the first screening and participated in a lengthy discussion with Dr. Kim-Gibson and a panel of OSU professors including Dr. **Ooyoung Pyun**, Dr. **Patricia Sieber**, Dr. **Richard Torrance**, and EASC’s postdoctoral researcher **Kwang-Kyoon Yeo**.

Dr. Kim-Gibson then traveled to Wooster where she met privately with 15 Wooster-area teachers from the National Consortium for

Teaching about Asia-Ohio program, coordinated by the East Asian Studies Center and taught by Dr. **Dennis Hart** of Kent State University and Dr. **Young Rae Oum**, independent scholar. Dr. Kim-Gibson was then present for a two-hour discussion about Korean comfort women. Another screening/discussion of *Silence Broken* was later presented on the College of Wooster’s campus where more than 75 people attended.

The East Asian Studies Center owns a copy of *Silence Broken: Korean Comfort Women*, which is available for OSU faculty and staff to borrow.

More information about Dr. Kim-Gibson, *Silence Broken* and her other films can be found on her website, www.twotigers.org.

EASC units collaborate to hold lecture on Japanese-Korean relations

The Institute for Japanese Studies, Korean Studies Initiative and East Asian Studies Center collaborated to bring Dr. **Sonia Ryang**, Associate Professor at the University of Iowa, to OSU this spring.

Dr. Ryang, a social anthropologist, gave a talk to faculty, students and interested members of the public on Japanese-Korean relations on May 30.

Ryang’s current research focus is on vulnerable population, first starting from the state of Iowa (immigrants, single-parent households and low-income families with dependants with disabilities), with the hopes to comparatively inquire into Korea and Japan. She is currently completing a book on diaspora, gender and autobiographics on one hand, and finishing up another book (co-edited) on Korean diaspora in Japan, on the other.





Focus on Buddhist Studies

Tibetan scholar Gray Tuttle delivers lecture on "Lamas and Emperors"

New Tibetan language courses to be offered in 2008-09

With support from a U.S. Department of Education Title VI grant, the East Asian Studies Center is pleased to support Tibetan language instruction at OSU again in 2008-09. The following courses will be offered:

- Introductory Colloquial/Modern Tibetan*
- Advanced Colloquial/Modern Tibetan*
- Advanced Literary/Classical Tibetan*

This will be the first time that Advanced Colloquial Tibetan is offered at OSU. Students interested in Introductory Literary/Classical Tibetan will be accommodated in the Introductory Colloquial/Modern Tibetan course.

EASC, in collaboration with the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, has been supporting Tibetan instruction at OSU since 2006-07. Enrollment has grown from 8 OSU students in the first year to 11 students in the second year.

For 2008-09, these courses will again be taught via videoconference by Dr. **Gareth Sparham** of the University of Michigan.

For more information on Tibetan offerings at OSU, contact Amy Carey at carey.189@osu.edu.



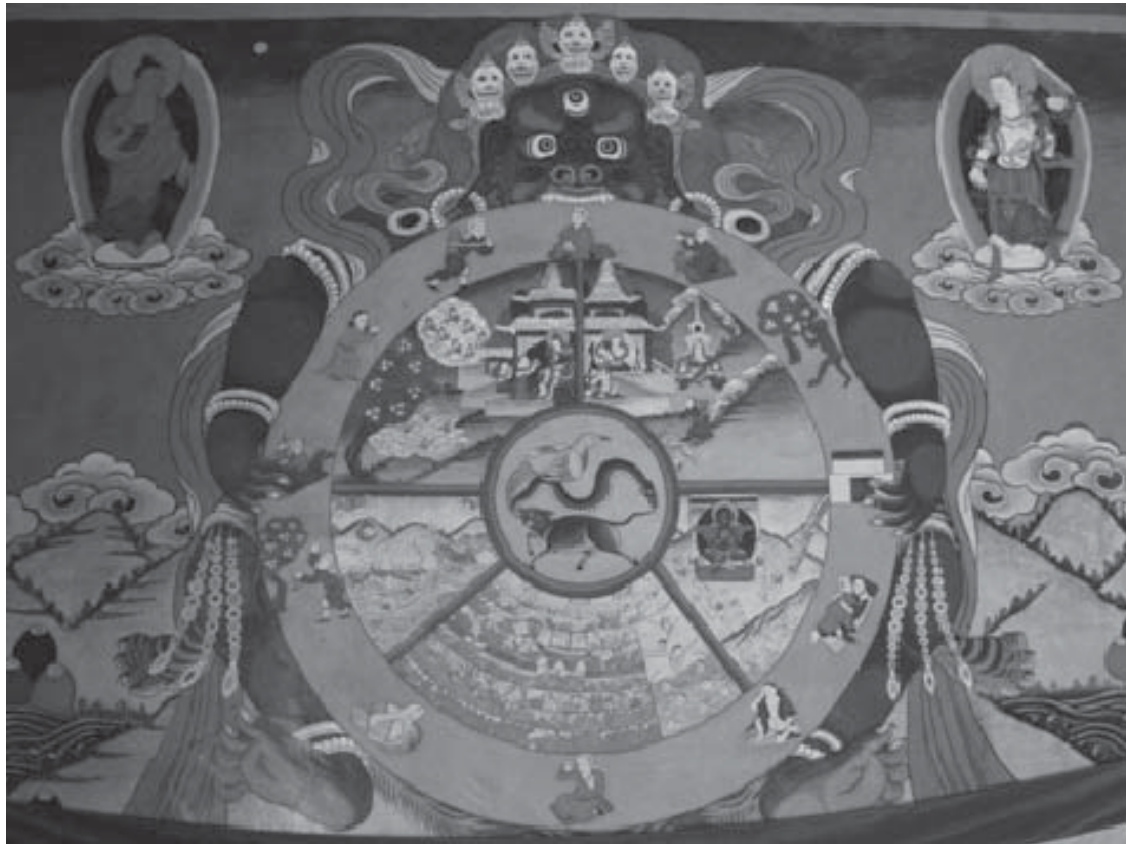
As part of the *Rethinking China* Lecture Series, the Institute for Chinese Studies invited **Gray Tuttle**, the Leila Hadley Luce Professor of Modern Tibetan Studies in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at Columbia University, to give a lecture at OSU on May 16, 2008. The title of his talk was "Lamas and Emperors: The Imperial History of Ruling Tibet from Beijing and Thoughts on the Present."

Tuttle studies the history of twentieth century Sino-Tibetan relations as well as Tibet's relations with the China-based Manchu Qing Empire. He is the author of *Tibetan Buddhists in the Making of Modern China* (Columbia UP, 2005), is co-editor of *Sources of Tibetan Tradition* for the series *Introduction to Asian Civilizations* and is co-writing *Tibet: History, Society, and Culture*.

In his talk, Tuttle described how neither the current Chinese government nor the Tibetan exiled-community has much interest in looking closely at the past models of ruling Tibet from Beijing. However, the older imperial

tradition, with its respect and support for Tibetan Buddhist culture proved a successful strategy for centuries. He explained how this past may provide a useful guide for the future in a world where China and Tibet would both benefit from a return to less contentious relations.

He focused on new research on the development of mass monasticism, incarnation series and the integration of these institutions into the Qing Empire's bureaucratic institutions, but also devoted attention to implications of this past.





Himalayan Cultural Weekend features Bhutanese sand mandala creation

By Ariana Maki, graduate student, Department of History of Art



On February 7-11, 2008, the East Asian Studies Center sponsored OSU's first Himalayan Cultural Weekend. Kezang Dorjee, a Bhutanese monk currently based at the Drukpa Mila Center in Longmont, Colorado, gave a demonstration of techniques for constructing a Buddhist sand mandala.

A mandala is a meditational tool used by Buddhists to cultivate greater spiritual insight and a higher level of spiritual attainment. Dorjee has been trained to create more than three dozen different mandalas from memory using multicolored sand, and each design is associated with a

specific Buddhist deity. The composition Dorjee chose for Ohio State was that of the "Wheel of Dharma," which represents the Buddha and his teachings.

Dorjee created the three-foot diameter mandala after 25 hours of work, placing the colored sand granules pinch by pinch onto a prepared wooden surface. At a closing reception marking the conclusion of the building process, Dorjee gave a brief talk on the meaning of the design and how mandalas function in modern Bhutanese Buddhist ritual practice. After the mandala was completed, Dorjee then swept the sand into a large pile before an audience of over 80 onlookers, its destruction meant to remind the viewers of the fleeting and temporary nature of existence.

Concurrent with the mandala construction, the Film Studies Program and the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures joined with EASC to sponsor three screenings of the Bhutanese film *Tharchin*. Translated into English as "*The Liberated*," *Tharchin* follows the journey of a small family as one son embarks on the path of a Buddhist monastic, while a second son follows a more conventional path to become a civil servant. As each becomes more dedicated to his respective path, the sons are forced to negotiate their coming of age in an increasingly stratified society. Filmed during the summer of 2007, *Tharchin* is an example of modern Himalayan cinema that expresses Buddhist worldview and unique aspects of Bhutanese culture.

Thanks to the generous support of the East Asian Studies Center, the Film Studies Program, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, the Foreign Language Center and the World Media and Cultural Center, the Himalayan Cultural Weekend exhibited the long-standing tradition of Buddhist sand mandala construction together with modern Bhutanese film.

EASC presents Buddhist ritual song and dance from Korea

The Korean Studies Initiative, in cooperation with the Korea Society, presented "The Sound of Ecstasy and Nectar of Enlightenment Buddhist Ritual Song & Dance from Korea" on October 26, 2007 at The Ohio State University.

This rare performance provided the audience with unique insights into Korean Buddhism and original Korean Buddhist chants, dance styles and music.

The performance was co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education Title VI funding for the OSU East Asian Studies Center, the Ethnomusicology program, the Center for the Study of Religion, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, the Center for Folklore Studies and the Department of Theatre.





Focus on Chinese language & linguistics

OSU hosts 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics

If you happened to be on the Northeast end of campus near Ramseyer Hall the last weekend in April, you may have overheard many conversations either in Chinese or about the Chinese language. That's because The Ohio State University was the host of the 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-20) April 25-27, an annual academic conference dedicated to the latest research in Chinese linguistics by scholars around the world.

OSU's Dr. **Marjorie K. M. Chan**, NACCL-20's organizer and recently appointed chair of the NACCL steering committee, coordinated the three-day conference which hosted more than 140 attendees from more than 70 universities in 13 countries, making it the larg-

est NACCL to date. Presentations of 115 papers ranging in subject matter from syntax and semantics to psycholinguistics were held in four parallel sessions during the conference and included three plenary presentations by Dr. **Edwin T. Pulleyblank** (University of British Columbia), Dr. **James H.-Y. Tai** (National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan) and Dr. **Yen-hui Audrey Li** (University of Southern California.)

Tai, a former OSU faculty member, was joined by **Robert Sanders** (University of Auckland) and **Thomas Ernst** (University of Massachusetts and Dartmouth College), also previous faculty at OSU. In addition, fourteen OSU alumni, thirteen current graduate students, and numerous current faculty members were on the NACCL-20



ABOVE: Thomas Ernst, Marjorie K.M. Chan and James H.-Y. Tai at NACCL-20.

program, making it a reunion in many ways.

The first NACCL conference was held at The Ohio State University in the 1980s (then called the Northeast Conference on Chinese

Linguistics) and returned "home" to celebrate its 20th anniversary.

The conference was supported by EASC's **Jennifer McCoy Bartko** and countless other support staff from around the university.

OSU team sweeps field in New York Chinese Bridge Regionals



Christopher Stellato performing in the Chinese Bridge regional competition.

The Ohio State University's team of students from the Chinese Flagship Program swept the field in the regional Chinese Bridge competition in New York on April 5, 2008. The three-member team, coached by **Huanzhen Zhao**, won four prizes in the New York competition. **Donald Newman** took first prize and best talent performance; **Chris Stellato** took second prize; and **Lucas Geller** captured third prize.

Four days later, Hunan Satellite TV ("HSTV"), China's highest-ranked regional television outlet, made a very special visit to the OSU campus. HSTV's visit was prompted by their recognition that students from OSU's Chinese Flagship Program have compiled an unprecedented record of repeated wins in the worldwide annual Chinese Bridge Competition. HSTV is slated to televise the worldwide finals of the competition which will be held in Hunan Province in 2008.

Hunan Satellite TV was interested in showing their Chinese audiences the teachers and teaching methods which have made OSU's Chinese language and cultural instruction programs so effective and competitive. To develop the story of OSU's unique performance-based Chinese language pedagogy developed by Professor **Galal Walker**, HSTV visited Chinese classes at different levels, conducted on-campus interviews at OSU with Professor Walker, Director of National East Asian Languages Resource Center and the Chinese Flagship Program, **Patrick McAloon**, OSU's first winner of the international Chinese Bridge first prize in 2004, **Huanzhen Zhao**, coach of all of the OSU Chinese Bridge contestants since 2004, and other OSU Chinese instructors and students.

HSTV interviewed OSU President **E. Gordon Gee** and University Provost **Joseph Alutto** and filmed Dr. Gee's presentation of awards to the OSU Chinese Bridge team and their coach. HSTV interviewed OSU College of Humanities Dean **John Roberts** about the OSU Chinese language and culture program, and Ohio Lieutenant Governor **Lee Fisher** congratulated the OSU team and coach on their successes in the New York competition.

The Ohio State University has entered the International Chinese Bridge finals competitions for five years, and has compiled an unprecedented record of three first-place wins, one second-place win and one "best talent performance" win. In addition to McAloon, **Abigail Southerland** and **Joshua Lotz** took first prizes in 2006 and 2007, respectively. OSU has fielded strong competitors for the Chinese Bridge competition for years, with encouragement and support from OSU's Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, OSU's Chinese Flagship Program and many individual supporters such as **Minru Li**, **Eric Shepherd** and **Yu Xiao**.

The Chinese Bridge Competition, formally called the "Chinese Proficiency Competition for Foreign College Students Worldwide," is sponsored by the Chinese Ministry of Education to give students incentive to study Chinese language and culture and is open to non-native Chinese speakers worldwide. More than 100 competitors from 52 countries participated in last year's competition.

The annual finals of the Chinese Bridge Competition are the ultimate, worldwide test for student performances of highly-advanced Chinese language proficiency and cultural skills. Each competitor appears individually before a live audience and gives a rehearsed speech, responds spontaneously to a discussion question, answers questions about Chinese history, geography and culture, and gives an inspired performance of a cultural skill or art form of their choosing (e.g. Chinese songs, dances, operas, musical instruments, calligraphy, painting, paper cutting, martial arts, etc). Each first place winner in the annual competition becomes an overnight celebrity all over China because of the TV coverage of the final competition. More importantly, they receive a fully-paid, three-year scholarship to study at any Chinese university, plus airfare to and from China. First-place winners are also given the title of "Chinese Language Envoy."



"Rethinking China"

Rethinking China Lecture Series concludes in 2008

Beginning in the fall of 2006, the Institute for Chinese Studies presented a new lecture series titled "Rethinking China" with the goal of exploring the full regional, linguistic, cultural and ethnic complexity of China. To date, more than a dozen leading scholars from China, Taiwan, the U.S. and Australia have showcased the vast and multifaceted cultures, peoples and thoughts that make up modern-day China. The series continued throughout the 2007-2008 academic year with speakers lecturing on subject matters ranging from localist literature to Chinese-Vietnamese relations.



In addition to **Guang Pan** and **Edwin Pulleyblank** discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, in autumn 2007, ICS hosted Dr. **Steven Miles** from Washington University who gave a lecture titled, "Social Mobility, Local Identity and Cultural Production in Nineteenth-Century Guangzhou" in which he described how Guangzhou's famous Xuehaitang scholars shifted from an intellectual history to a local social and cultural history by producing texts celebrating and articulating a local Cantonese culture.



Dr. **Bai Di**, Associate Professor and Director of Asian Studies, Drew University, presented "Lost or Gained in Translation?: Notes on Cross-Cultural Issues from Translating the Routledge International Encyclopedia of Women into Chinese" on January 18.

Dr. **Eric Henry** of the University of North Carolina visited OSU to present "Happy Comrades and Suffering Wayfarers: Ways of Existing and Relating to Others in China and Vietnam" in late January.

TOP: Steven Miles presented in the "Rethinking China" lecture series.

BOTTOM: Eric Henry visited OSU in January to present in the series.

In mid-May, ICS and DEALL co-hosted a presentation titled "Dragon Egg: Ethnographic Poetry from China" by renowned poet **Aku Wuwu** (aka Luo Qingchun) of the Nuosu (Yi) people of the Cool Mountains of Southwest China. Known for his startling ethnographic poetry, Aku read from his Nuosu poetry (accompanied in English translation provided by Dr. **Mark Bender**) and showed a short film on Nuosu culture.

Jewish presence in China featured in three-day series of events

By **Karen Sobul**, Foreign Language Center

A unique—and unexpected—cross-disciplinary opportunity opened up recently for OSU scholars in areas as seemingly diverse as Asian studies, Jewish studies, history, Chinese and Yiddish. For many of these scholars, the story of China's Silk Road is often told and well recounted in numerous histories, but a lesser-known path on the Silk Road is that of the Jews of China.

One of China's foremost scholars on the history and culture of the Jews in China, Professor **Guang Pan** visited the OSU campus as part of his recent U.S. speaking tour to present on the topic of

"Jews in China." Professor Pan is the Director of the Shanghai Center for International Studies and Institute of European and Asian Studies at the Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences as well as the author of several books on the long and unique history of the Jews in China from their Silk Road journey, through the storied communities of Kaifang and Harbin, to the refuge from the Nazis offered by the port of Shanghai.

Dr. **Minru Li**, Assistant Director of the National East Asian Languages Resource Center, and **Karen Sobul** of the Foreign Language Center arranged for Professor Pan to speak to groups both on campus as well as in the local Chinese community. Interest generated by this contact has initiated discussion of future cooperation with Shanghai Center.

Support for this program was provided by the East Asian Studies Center, the Foreign Language Center, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, the Yiddish and Ashkenazic Studies Program, Chinese Flagship Program, Chinese American Association of Central Ohio, Ohio Contemporary Chinese School, Melton Center for Jewish Studies and the Department of German Languages and Literatures.





UPCOMING VISITORS IN TAIWAN STUDIES

Dr. Elana Chipman

For the 2008-09 academic year, Dr. Chipman will serve as the East Asian Studies Center Postdoctoral Researcher. With a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Cornell University, she wrote her dissertation on "Our Beigang: Culture Work, Ritual and Community in a Taiwanese Town." She is currently the Taiwan Studies Postdoctoral Fellow at the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies at Harvard University. Dr. Chipman will teach three courses at OSU next year.

Dr. Chia-ling Mei

In Autumn 2008, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures will host Dr. Mei from National Taiwan University, author of several books on 20th century Taiwan literature. Dr. Mei will teach a three-week course on the subject next fall.

For further information on these visitors and their course offerings, contact Amy Carey at carey.189@osu.edu.

In the spring of 2007, the Institute for Chinese Studies (ICS), in collaboration with the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures (DEALL) and other departments on campus, launched a concerted effort to build an academic repertoire of events and speakers that touches on the growing Taiwanese influence in global affairs and Chinese studies.

Kicking off this initiative was Dr. **Kuei-fen Chiu** of National Tsing-Hua University in Taiwan who visited The Ohio State University in February to present a series of lectures on Taiwanese literature, film and culture. In September 2007, the Institute for Chinese Studies co-hosted Dr. **Jaushieh Joseph Wu**, Taiwan Representative to the United States, who delivered a spirited presentation about the political relationship between Taiwan and the U.S. to a packed house at the Wexner Center. His lecture was followed by an energetic performance by the Diabolo Dance Theatre from Taiwan, a performing arts troupe blending traditional and contemporary styles of dance.

In late 2007, ICS sponsored the presentation of several Taiwanese documentary films in a series titled, "Window on Taiwan." Four documentaries were shown over a four-week period highlighting such topics as politics and history (*Madame Chiang Kai-shek*), opera (*The Lost Kingdom*), the rice-producing industry (*Let it Be*), and gymnastics and national pride (*Jump! Boys*) in Taiwan.

Remember the "Other China"? Taiwan in 2008

By **Christopher A. Reed***

American and other scholars of China are today the beneficiaries of a decision taken in 1950 by the Truman Administration. After a brief hiatus, the Korean War and the White House then brought the Republic of China on Taiwan back under the American nuclear umbrella. Taiwan has had a complex relationship with the United States ever since. It is a relationship that has blown hot (in the 1950s, '60s, and '70s), cold (in the 1980s), and cool (since 1987, when martial law ended and multi-party parliamentary democracy arrived).

Taiwan today is a more interesting, complicated, and independent society than in the years prior to 1979, when the United States shifted its diplomatic ties from Taipei to Beijing, leaving relations with Taiwan to be governed murky by the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 and later amendments to it. And Taiwanese today, influenced by those decades of close relations but also by the past thirty years of independence, have a healthier, more confident relationship with Americans than they did when Taiwan was just one more Cold War client state.

Ironically, in spite of decades of close political and personal relations, American academics consistently overlook Taiwan as a launching pad for research on Chinese society. This is unfortunate given Taiwan's interest in promoting itself as a destination for students desiring to learn Mandarin, Min'nan, or even Hakka language, for faculty seeking opportunities to teach English-speaking and highly motivated students in U.S.-accented classrooms, and for researchers seeking open, often digitized, and always easily accessed archives and libraries as well as informants. In light of the fact that Taiwan has thirteen recognized "original" (*yuanzhu*) minorities, Taiwan is even a good place to study Han-ethnic minority relations.

The welcoming environment is even warmer for Ohio State-affiliated personnel, who will find that their university alumni association is the largest of any American university in Taiwan. Incoming Nationalist Party (KMT) Vice-Premier **Paul C.H. Chiu** holds a Ph.D. in Economics from OSU and is the current president of Taiwan's Buckeye Association. Similarly, incoming Vice-President **Vincent Siew** is the 1999 recipient of an honorary doctorate from OSU. Rumor has it that the U.S. Government's Chinese-language training facility located near Taipei is still directed by an OSU Ph.D. from DEALL.

I have been coming to Taiwan since 1978-79, when I worked as an English teacher in southern Taiwan's industrial center Kaohsiung. In the thirty years since then, I have studied and/or researched here for a total of about three years, on and off, mostly supported by Fulbright awards, including a student award. In honor of the fact that some of the earliest Fulbrighters went to the Republic of China, Taiwan Fulbright awards are among the most generous available today and they often include a budget for research in mainland China.

Although Taiwan is crowded (it is the second-most densely populated society on earth after Bangladesh), it is easy to get away from Taipei and relax in the verdant calm of Yangmingshan (named by Chiang Kai-shek in honor of his favorite Ming-dynasty philosopher Wang Yangming) or, farther south, Yushan, in the midst of the highest mountains in Asia after the Himalayas. A subtropical island, Taiwan has beaches, hiking, snake markets, a vibrant religious life, and, because of the mountains, snow. Politically, Taiwan has experienced more formal political change in the past eight years than either neighbor Japan or China has since the 1950s.

And yet libraries, including the National Central Library, research institutes and archives (such as Academia Sinica and the KMT archives, where I have been working since Christmas 2007), as well as universities, newspapers, and the internet remain open and calm. Kinmen Island, famous for its role as a bulwark of the 1950s Cold War, is today a major tourist destination as is Green Island, which during the Chiang Kai-shek era housed political prisoners, including the recently deceased Bo Yang, known as "China's Voltaire." Today Green Island is a resort destination with one of the world's only two saline hot springs.

Perhaps all this is what President Truman hoped for when he moved the Seventh Fleet into the Taiwan Straits in June 1950.

*Christopher A. Reed teaches modern Chinese history at The Ohio State University. Supported by a Taiwan Senior Scholar Fulbright Award, he has been conducting research in Taipei on the KMT in the 1920s to 1940s period. For those interested in Taiwan's 2008 political campaigns, he has recently contributed a 3600-word article on that topic with photographs and Quick-Time movies to *Origins—Current Events in Historical Perspective*, which can be accessed at: <http://ehistory.osu.edu/osu/origins/>



Sijo workshops and performance held by Korean Studies Initiative



Thanks to generous support from the Overseas Korean Music School program from the National Center for Korean Traditional Performing Arts, the Korean Studies Initiative held a series of events on *sijo*, Korean oral poetry.

ABOVE: OSU faculty and students participate in *sijo* workshops with master vocalist Moon Hyun coordinated by KSI Director Chan E. Park.

Six intensive hands-on workshops were held from May 6 to 15, and on May 16, master vocalist **Moon Hyun** gave an introduction to *sijo* and a recital at OSU's Hughes Auditorium.

In addition to the support from the National Center for Korean Traditional Performing Arts, these events were supported by OSU's East Asian Studies Center, Korean Studies Initiative and School of Music.

KSI sponsors film screening

The Korean Studies Initiative co-sponsored a film screening of *Tie a Yellow Ribbon*, a rare view into the very real, emotionally-complex interior of a Korean adoptee who needs to reconcile her feelings on race, identity and family. Screened on April 30, this film is one of the first feature films to address the abnormally high rates of suicide and depression among Asian American women.

Following the screening, a panel discussion featuring the film's director, **Joy Dietrich** and **Rebecca Nelson** Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs and Director, Multicultural Center was held.

Former reporter shares experience covering Kwangju massacre

Journalist **Norman Thorpe** visited OSU on April 24 to deliver a talk about his experience covering the Kwangju Massacre of 1980, sponsored by the East Asian Studies Center and the Korean Studies Initiative.

The massacre of civilians in the South Korean city of Kwangju in 1980 by the Korean army was one of the watershed events in South Korea's transition to democracy. Like the massacre in Beijing's Tiananmen Square nine years later, it left hundreds dead and thousands wounded, and displayed the horror of a government turning against its own citizens.

When Thorpe, then a reporter for the *Asian Wall Street Journal* based in Seoul, arrived in Kwangju, the city was in turmoil, with soldiers firing on demonstrators and citizens taking up arms

to battle the troops. He spent the next six days there, documenting what had happened and reporting on how residents were waiting for the crisis to be resolved. The army at one point withdrew, but a few days later it rolled back into the city in tanks to take it by force. When the shooting ended, Thorpe was among those who counted the bodies of the citizens who had resisted. In 1987, even larger demonstrations forced a return to free elections and democracy, which now is thriving in South Korea.

Thorpe shared his experiences covering Kwangju and other events in Korea's struggle for democracy. He currently teaches about Korea as an adjunct faculty member at Whitworth University in Spokane, Washington and in the Korean Studies summer program at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul.



ABOVE: Norman Thorpe speaks at OSU on April 24.



Focus on Japanese Pop Culture

The Institute for Japanese Studies held a series of lectures in Winter and Spring 2008 on the theme of Japanese pop culture. Topics covered in the series ranged from film to historical fiction to comics.



On February 14, 2008, Dr. **Abé Markus Nornes** kicked off the series with his lecture titled "Subtitling Can be Disterbing: Film Translation of the Third Era." Dr. Nornes is an associate professor in both the Department of Screen Arts and Cultures and the Department of Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Michigan.



Dr. **Mark Silver** joined the series on March 28, 2008 with his lecture, "Purloined Letters: Cultural Borrowing and the Translated Detective Novel in Meiji Japan." Professor Silver is an Assistant Professor of Japanese at Connecticut College.



Dr. **Scott Langton**, Associate Professor of Japanese and Director of Asian Studies at Austin College spoke on April 25, 2008 for the series with his lecture, "Of Monkeys & Ninjas: Sarutobi Sasuke, Sun Wu-kong and the Development of Popular Historical Fiction in Japan."

Friday May 16, 2008 brought Dr. **Deborah Shamoon** of the University of Notre Dame to the OSU campus. Her lecture was titled, "The History of Shojo Manga (Girls comics) in Japan."

"The History of Pop Culture in Japan" was co-sponsored by a U.S. Department of Education Title VI Grant for the East Asian Studies Center, the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and OSU Film Studies.

ABOVE: Dr. Abé Markus Nornes (top), Dr. Mark Silver (middle), and Dr. Scott Langton (bottom) speak in the Japanese pop culture lecture series.

IJS holds class and lecture on "Spine Tingling Tales of Old Japan"

On April 2, 2008, **Jonatha and Harold Wright** visited OSU and presented excerpts from their new book, *Spine Tingling Tales of Old Japan*. After joining Dr. **Shelley Quinn's** EA600 class in the afternoon, the pair thrilled a large group in the evening with the tales from their book.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Upcoming EASC Events

**Three Rivers, One Source:
A Panorama of Vietnamese Music and Dance
October 1, 2008, 7:30 p.m.
OSU's Drake Performance and Events Center**

EASC is proud to present this unique opportunity to view 14 Vietnamese musicians and dancers performing genres from northern, central and southern Vietnam. The genres include no fewer than three forms of opera (*hat cheo*, *hat tuong* and *cai luong*, all of which integrate traditional dance), narrative singing (*ca tru*), folk songs (*hat xam* and *ca Hue*), chamber music (*tai tu*) and ritual music (*chau van*), and the performers include several People's Artists, a status similar to the Japanese or Korean Living Treasures.

The musicians were selected by Dr. **Phong Nguyen** (a 1997 NEA National Heritage Fellow and one of the top ethnomusicologists specializing in Vietnamese music), realizing a lifelong dream of his to present all these genres (including northern ones) in North America. The tour will be the first time *ca tru* (a nearly disappeared genre of geisha-like narrative singing, using poetic texts that date back up to 1,000 years) has been presented in the U.S., and as a whole the tour is probably unprecedented in the variety of genres being offered to American audiences.

Information about the tour (including bios of the musicians) may be found here: <http://ivmvietnam.blogspot.com/>

**Unpacking China:
Regional, Linguistic and Cultural Diversities
October 17-18, 2008**

In October 2008, The Ohio State University will host "Unpacking China," a two-day conference to highlight the heterogeneous and dynamic inner workings of China. As debates on China continue to populate in the media, U.S. foreign policy and academia, it has become increasingly important to dispel the dominating perceptions of China as a homogenous entity with a unified history, people and culture. In this interdisciplinary conference, scholars from different parts of the United States will present papers on the regional, linguistic and demographic diversity of China. By underlining China as a nation-state constituted of various local identities, diverse ethnic cultures and contesting visions, this conference will facilitate the understanding of the multifaceted reality of this emerging superpower. **Dr. Gladney**, the author of *Dislocating China: Muslims, Minorities, and the Other Subaltern Subjects* (2004) and president of the Pacific Basin Institute, will deliver a keynote presentation. The October conference, organized by **Kwang-Kyoon Yeo**, post-doctoral researcher for the East Asian Studies Center, is funded by an Office of International Affairs Faculty Grant and the East Asian Studies Center.



FACULTY NEWS

Marjorie K.M. Chan (Associate Professor, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures) hosted the 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics (NACCL-20) at OSU on April 25-27, 2008. The conference was sponsored by the following units at Ohio State: East Asian Studies Center, Institute for Chinese Studies, Office of International Affairs, College of Humanities, Center for Cognitive Science, Asian American Student Services (Multicultural Center), OSU Chinese Flagship Program and National East Asian Languages Resource Center, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Department of Linguistics, and Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures.

Chan will also be attending the 16th International Conference on Chinese Linguistics (IACL-16), to be hosted by Peking University on May 30 to June 2, 2008 in Beijing, China. She will be presenting a paper, "Prosody of Humor in Cantonese Opera." She has also been invited by Renmin University to give a lecture on current linguistic research at Ohio State.

Kirk A. Denton (Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures) is working on a book on museums and exhibitionary culture in Greater China titled *Exhibiting the Past: Politics and Ideology in Museums in the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong*. He has published several articles in this area, including "Horror and Atrocity: Memory of Japanese Imperialism in Chinese Museums" in Guobin Yang and Ching Kwan Lee, eds., *Reinvisioning the Chinese Revolution: The Politics and Poetics of Collective Memories in Reform China* (Wilson Center Press, 2007). His *Literary Societies in Republican China*, co-edited with Michel Hockx, was published by Lexington Books in 2008. He also edited *China: A Traveler's Literary Companion*, published by Whereabouts Press in 2008. Denton is also editor of the journal *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, manager of the online MCLC Resource Center and moderator of the MCLC LIST.

Maureen Donovan (Associate Professor, University Library) presented "Time and Change: Reflections on the Development of East Asian Library Collections at the Ohio State University" at the UC-Berkeley conference, "Over a Hundred Years of Collecting: The History of East Asian Collections in North America," October 18-20, 2007. Her paper and conference presentation are available online at <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/31755> and <http://hdl.handle.net/1811/31756>. For further information about the conference, visit <http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/EAL/staropening/programs.html>.

Donovan also made a presentation on "Scholarly Communication and Patron Services" at the Council on East Asian Libraries plenary session as part of a special "Forum on the Changing Environment and the Future of East Asian Collections in North America," April 2, 2008 at the Association for Asian Studies annual meeting in Atlanta.

The panel was introduced by Peter Zhou (UC-Berkeley) who spoke on "research libraries' changing environment." Other panelists were Ellen Hammond (Yale) on "Staff requirement, job training and skill sets," Yuan Zhou (U Chicago) on "Building collections and scholarly resources for East Asian studies," and Jim Cheng (UC-San Diego) on "Making East Asian digital resources web-scale: Infrastructure for East Asian collections."

Together with Shirin Eshghi of University of British Columbia, Donovan also presented "Japanese Collections as Learning Centers: Connecting Collections with Users through Web 2.0 Technologies" at the Committee on Japanese Materials on April 3, 2008 at the Association for Asian Studies annual meeting in Atlanta.

Belton M. Fleisher (Professor, Economics) recently published *Policy Reform and Chinese Markets: Progress and Challenges*, with fellow editors Nicholas C. Hope, Anita Alves Pena and Dennis Tao Yang (Cheltenham, UK and Northampton, MA, USA: Edward Elgar).

Mineharu Nakayama (Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures) is the editor of the *Journal of Japanese Linguistics*, which published Volume 23 recently featuring a focus on Japanese sentence-processing. Other recent publications include: "NPs in L2 Japanese sentence processing" in K. Ogura, M. Hirakawa, H. Kobayashi, and H. Sirai (eds.), *Studies in Language Science* Vol. 7. (with A. Kashiwagi); "Oral presentation skills in short-term English language study abroad programs" in the *Proceedings of the 25th International Conference of English Teaching and Learning & the 2008 International Conference on English Instruction and Assessment International Conference* (with N. Yoshimura); "Skills development in a short-term English study abroad program" in C. Wong (ed.), *Selected Papers from the 2006 Annual Research Forum of the Linguistic Society of Hong Kong* (with N. Yoshimura); "Bound variable interpretations in L2 and Universal Grammar" in T. Sano, M. Endo, M. Isobe, K. Otaki, K. Sugisaki, and T. Suzuki (eds.), *Enterprise in the Cognitive Science of Language*; and "JFL learners' interpretations of zibun and zibun-tachi" in M. Minami (ed.), *Applying Theory and Research to Learning Japanese as a Foreign Language* (with A. Kano).

In addition to publishing, Nakayama gave three talks—at the University of Shizuoka, Japan, at the 25th International Conference of English Teaching and Learning and the 2008 International Conference on English Instruction and Assessment at Chung Cheng University in Taiwan, and at the International Conference on Processing Head-final Structures.

With funding from the University of Shizuoka Global Center of Excellence for Innovation in Human Health Sciences, Nakayama coordinated the Shizuoka Health Sciences English Program with the Institute for Japanese Studies and the American Language Program last December (for the first time). The second program will be held at OSU this summer.

Chan Park (Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures) published "Music of Korea: Dance of the Spirits," in *OnMusic of the World*, online text for college world music classroom, Connect for Education, 2007. She also published four reviews: of "Korean Pop Music: Riding the Wave," edited by Keith Howard, in *World of Music Journal*; of *Four Contemporary Korean Plays* by Lee Yun-Taek and translated by Dongwook Kim and Richard Nichols, to appear in *Asian Theatre Journal*; of *Korean Studies Series No. 32: Oral Literature of Korea*, compiled by Seo Daeseok and edited by Peter H. Lee, *Journal of Asian Studies*; and of *Empress Chung*, directed by Nelson Shin, in *Asian Educational Media Service*.

Park also delivered two papers at conferences, "Tradition-Modernity: Contradiction or Continuity?" in "The United States & the Koreas: A Critical Relationship" at the University of Pittsburgh Asian Studies Center in 2007 and "Storytelling and Human Connectivity: Songs of Korean Diaspora," in "Catching the Wave: Connecting East Asia Through Soft Power" conference at UC Berkeley Institute of East Asian Studies in 2007.

Park was playwright and producer of "Pak Hŭngbo," a two-act storytelling play wrote, directed and performed with members of the Korean Theatre of Kazakhstan, Almaty, Kazakhstan, July 14, 2007. She also premiered her production of "De-essentializing Ch'unhyang" at the Society for Ethnomusicologists, The Ohio State University, October 27, 2007. In 2007-08, she has performed "Korean Storytelling Today" at Yenching Institute, Harvard; UC Santa Cruz; UC Davis; Claremont Pomona; Rhode Island School of Design Museum of Art; Trinity University; UC Irvine; University of North Carolina; University of Southern California and University of Louisville.

Park also received the Arts and Humanities Seed Grant for creative activities, 2008, for "Ethnography of Traditional performance in Contemporary Korea" proposal. She continues to serve as a Committee Member for the Interdisciplinary East Asian Studies Master's Degree Program.



LIBRARY NEWS

The Makio: More than a legacy of exoticism?

By Maureen Donovan, Associate Professor, University Library

When Ohio State's students decided on a Japanese word, *Makio* or "magic mirror," as the title of their yearbook, the university's library probably did not contain even a single work written in an East Asian language. First issued in 1880, *The Makio*, continues to come out each year as a record of student life at Ohio State.

The title is said to have emerged from conversations students had with **Edward S. Morse** on his visit to campus in 1878-79, when Ohio State's Professor **Thomas Corwin Mendenhall** was in Japan holding the Chair of Physics at Tokyo Imperial University as an *oyatoi gaikokujin* (hired foreigner). Morse is said to have reported on the optics experiments Mendenhall's students in Tokyo were conducting using Japanese magic mirrors.

Magic mirrors are metal mirrors with smooth reflecting surfaces that can be used as typical mirrors, but when sunlight or other bright light is reflected off their surfaces, glowing patterns from designs embedded inside the mirror are projected onto a wall. An ancient technology, magic mirrors can be traced back to the Han dynasty in China. Reflected images from magic mirrors often are used as the focus of Buddhist meditation. During the period when Christianity was banned in Japan, secret Christian images were also hidden in magic mirrors.

In December 2006, an exhibit of magic mirrors was held at the Kyoto University Museum during a conference on "Manufacturing DNA for Optical Instruments in Pre-Modern Japan and an Establishment of Japanese Identity in Modern High Technology." The conference sought to identify early modern precursors ("DNA") of contemporary high technology in Japan. Magic mirrors were a primary focus of attention because

the technology used to manufacture them had become the basis for an advanced technology known as "makyoh topography," currently used in detecting minute imperfections in silicon semiconductor devices.

In a similar way, the choice of the title *Makio* for the student yearbook at Ohio State, while ostensibly nothing more than a thin veneer of exoticism bequeathed to their alma mater by a small group of fraternity members, can also be seen as a kind of "DNA" for the university, setting a comprehensive, global outlook and ensuring that the study of science and technology and other subjects at Ohio State takes place within a framework that always includes the arts and humanities, as well as foreign cultures, societies and languages. Although not all current students know the meaning or origin of their yearbook's title, its existence still serves as an important, symbolic link, establishing a deep connection between Ohio State and East Asia.



TOP LEFT: The title page from the 1886 edition of *Makio*, the yearbook of The Ohio State University.

BOTTOM LEFT: The title page from the 1908 edition of *Makio*.

BOTTOM RIGHT: The cover and title page from the 1880 edition of *Makio*.



Chinese Studies Library Collection Update

**By Guoqing Li,
Professor, University Library**

Beginning November 15, 2007, the entire OSU campus can now access the China Data Online service without a user ID and password at <http://chinadataonline.org/>

This account covers the following databases:

- (1) Monthly Statistics
- (2) National Statistics
- (3) Provincial Statistics
- (4) City Statistics
- (5) County Statistics
- (6) Monthly Industrial Data
- (7) Yearly Industrial Data
- (8) Statistics with Map & Charts
- (9) Statistical Yearbooks
- (10) Census Data 1982
- (11) Census Data 1982(10%)
- (12) Census Data 1990
- (13) Survey Data 1995
- (14) Census Province Data 2000
- (15) Census County Data 2000
- (16) Advanced Search

Beginning April 1, 2008, 357 Chinese language full-text journals are available to all OhioLINK members through:

On-campus:
<http://www.wanfangdata.com/COJ/browse.asp>

Off-campus:
<http://proxy.ohiolink.edu:9099/login?url=http://www.wanfangdata.com/COJ/browse.asp>

STUDENT NEWS

Karen Curtin (graduate student, Japanese pedagogy, East Asian Languages and Literatures) was accepted into the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies, a 10-month program in Yokohama, Japan.

Anne Henochowicz (graduate student, East Asian Languages and Literatures) published "Blue Heaven, Parched Land: Mongolian Folksong and the Chinese State" in the *Graduate Journal of Asia-Pacific Studies*, 6:1, March 2008. The article is available online at: <http://www.arts.auckland.ac.nz/sites/index.cfm?P=11719>. She also presented at three conferences: "Evolving Antiquity: *Guqin* Ideology and National Sentiment," Nov. 17, 2007 at College Music Society 50th National Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah; "Singing Pan-Mongolia: Grassland Song in the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, P.R.C.," April 3, 2008 at Chinoperl Annual Conference in Atlanta, Georgia; and "Sing It Like It Is: Ironic Social Commentary in Western and Asian Karaoke," May 16-17, 2008 at Translation/Transformation—The Folklore and Ethnomusicology Student Associations at The Ohio State and Indiana Universities in Columbus, Ohio.

Eliza Ho (graduate student, History of Art) delivered in absentia "What Does a Picturesque, Landscape Photograph Tell? A Chinese Photographer Sha Fei's Political Photography in the 1930s" at The Art of Opposition, Graduate Symposium in East Asian Art, Tang Center for East Asian Art, Princeton University, Feb. 16, 2008. She also presented "Picturing the War and More: The Jin-Cha-Ji Pictorial and its Founder Sha Fei (1912-1950)" at the 11th Annual Harvard East Asia Society Conference, Cambridge, Harvard University, February 29- March 2, 2008.

Ariana Maki (graduate student, History of Art) presented her research paper, "Lineage and Legitimacy in Lhasa's Lukhang Temple" at "Art History, Buddhist Studies, Tibet: New Perspectives from the Tibet Site Seminar" held at Princeton University in March 2008. The conference promoted new scholarship which resulted from a six-week seminar held in Tibet last summer. Maki also received an Office of International Affairs Research Grant for dissertation research in Bhutan.

Nan Meng (graduate student, East Asian Languages and Literatures) presented "Making requests: A pragmatic study of mother-child dyads" at the 20th North American Conference on Chinese Linguistics, April 2008 in Columbus, Ohio.

Yanfei Zhu (graduate student, History of Art) presented "Song of Unending Sorrow: Hashimoto Kansetsu between True Love and Politics" at the 7th Annual East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference on the Asia Pacific Region in Honolulu, Hawaii, February 14-16, 2008.



Enriching the student experience

OSU student wins Ohio Japanese language speech contest



ABOVE: Contestants in the annual Japanese language speech contest for Ohio high school and college students.

The Institute for Japanese Studies and the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio held their annual Japanese Language Speech Contest on March 1, 2008 in Hagerty Hall on the OSU campus. Twelve university and five high school students vied for bragging rights as well as prizes such as a round-trip ticket to Japan.

Michelle Hughes of The Ohio State University took top honors, the grand prize, while **Alina Kordesch** of Ohio University and **Weian Ye** of Sycamore High School took home first place prizes.

Conversation partners and host families needed for Japanese students

The Institute for Japanese Studies will be hosting two groups of students from the University of Shizuoka on the OSU campus this summer to increase their English language skills. Several English conversation partners and numerous host families are needed. Applications are available online at:

<http://japan.osu.edu>.

EASC offers international career events for OSU students

In support of OSU President Gee's internationalization goals which include facilitating educational opportunities for faculty and students that support diverse cultures, the East Asian Studies Center has co-organized two series of events that aim to share opportunities for international careers with the OSU student body.

EASC's Institute for Chinese Studies, in collaboration with the Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) and the Undergraduate International Studies Program (UISP), hosted a "Real Worlds" lecture series in late 2007 which highlighted the real-life experiences of OSU alumni and others in working with foreign businesses and governments, particularly China.

Jeanne Bartholomew, an international business and development consultant, kicked off the series with her talk "So... you want to pursue an international career?" in which she shared her 15 years of experience on the realities of working in an international world. **Orian Williams**, also an OSU graduate, offered advice to OSU students on the components of his collegiate experience that best prepared him for this role as a financial analyst working globally, specifically in the Pacific Rim, for Johnson & Johnson. **Ed Fisher** of Oswald Companies explored careers that deal with the legalities, product liability and risk management issues impacting U.S. companies dealing with China. **Tan Xiangjiang**, Vice President of IMG-China, rounded out the series with his lecture titled "Making the Impossible Possible: Establishing a Foreign Media Company in China." A young and influential media entrepreneur in China, Tan is pioneering many new developments in the modern Chinese television industry: the digitization of channels, the construction of video databases for media, along with the creation of a Travel Channel and a Sports Channel.

The series provided undergraduates and graduates preparing for careers in international arenas the opportunity to gain insight into the realities of some of the day-to-day experiences of current professionals, as well as to ask detailed questions about coursework, international study and other experiences that can best prepare them for the real world.

Following the success of the "Real Worlds" series, the East Asian Studies Center joined forces with the Center for African Studies, the Center for Latin American Studies, the Middle East Studies Center, the Center for Slavic and East European Studies and the Foreign Language Center, to organize "International Careers Week." From May 12 to May 16, 2008, a different international career-related event took place each evening.

The series began with a two-hour session titled "Introduction to International Careers" in which presenters and participants discussed how to prepare for an international career, locate internships and job opportunities, and secure these positions. Topics included foreign language skills, study abroad and overseas experience, internships, networking, resumes, interview skills, recruiter visits and more. Day Two, "Careers in Intelligence," featured a talk by recruiters from the Central Intelligence Agency's Open Source Center and Directorate of Intelligence. International non-profit careers was the focus of the third day, and featured former Peace Corps volunteers and a discussion of other opportunities in the non-profit sector. Thursday was the annual Foreign Language Center's Career Fair, which featured recruiters from the government, military and globally-oriented businesses. A roundtable of invited professionals highlighted the program in the Crane Café where international satellite television broadcasts were featured throughout the evening. The final session focused on careers in academia, and included a discussion on how to build a CV, conduct international research and more.



FLAS fellows share their experiences abroad

Many Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship recipients choose to use their fellowship to study overseas. Here are their stories:

"I am studying at Waseda University in Japan. The focus of my program is Japanese film studies, so I have been taking multiple Japanese culture/art courses, a media studies course and multiple film courses including courses on film realism and Japanese film. These courses have motivated me to analyze in my M.A. thesis elements of film realism present in Japanese animation, widely thought of as film formalism, and to compare this phenomenon with the growing tendency in other forms of film to incorporate formalistic elements associated with Japanese animation. Of course, I have been taking many Japanese language courses as well. This has been an extremely rewarding experience, and it would not have been possible without the FLAS fellowship."

**-George Stey, 2007-08 FLAS Fellow,
Japanese language, Waseda University
(pictured at right at Meiji Jingu Shrine)**



"I'm currently here in Qinghai Province, China studying Chinese and Tibetan language and researching Tibetan medicine. My undergraduate degree was in biochemistry and I am currently working on an M.A. in Chinese language. The FLAS study abroad scholarship has given me the opportunity to improve my Chinese and Tibetan language skills. My improved language skills have, in turn, allowed me to conduct better research on traditional medicine here in China, which is the subject of my Master's thesis."

**-Joshua Lotz, 2007-08 FLAS Fellow,
Chinese language, Qinghai Normal University
(pictured right)**



EASC receives additional FLAS allocation from U.S. Department of Education

The Ohio State University was awarded an additional 2008-09 Academic Year Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowship by the U.S. Department of Education.

For FY 2008, the Congress increased the Title VI appropriation and included report language directing that one third of the increase be allocated to support additional FLAS fellowships. In accordance with this, the Department of Education allocated additional fellowships among grantees whose recent IRIS performance reports reflected that a high percentage of their academic year or summer fellowships had met the announced competitive preference priorities for advanced level language proficiency in less and least commonly taught languages and fellowships for master's degree students likely to pursue government service or a professional field.

Congratulations to EASC fellowship and scholarship winners!

Summer 2008 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship

Brid Arthur, Tibetan, History of Art
Benjamin Boroughf, Japanese, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Paula Curtis, Japanese, East Asian Studies
Angela Haugen, Japanese, East Asian Studies
Shana Lear, Chinese, East Asian Studies
Dawn Little, Japanese, Foreign Language Acquisition
Kenneth Marotte, Japanese, East Asian Studies
Dorothy Sutton, Japanese, History of Art

2008-09 Intensive Chinese Language Scholarship

Phillip Johnson, Majors: Linguistics/International Business
Simran Khaira, Major: Chinese
Lydia Thomas, Majors: Chinese/Arabic

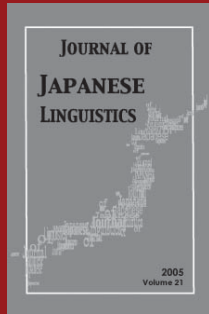
Academic Year 2008-09 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowship

Brid Arthur, Tibetan, History of Art
Amanda Drummond, Chinese, East Asian Studies
Heather Fair, Chinese, Environmental Science
Anne Henochowicz, Chinese, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Chris Kern, Chinese, East Asian Languages and Literatures
Shana Lear, Chinese, East Asian Studies
Stephen Moody, Japanese, Economics
Laura Ondrake, Japanese, East Asian Languages and Literatures
George Stey, Japanese, East Asian Studies

2008-09 Louise Loh Memorial Scholarship

Mengjun Li, East Asian Languages and Literatures

EASC is a proud sponsor of the following journals:



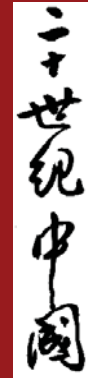
*Journal of Japanese
Linguistics*

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*Modern Chinese
Literature and
Culture*

<http://mclc.osu.edu>



*Twentieth-Century
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