From The Director

As the world becomes smaller, everyone is called upon to know more and to develop deeper understandings in order to make sustainable decisions for themselves and for communities at large. So as the planet shrinks and becomes more susceptible to the unforeseen consequences of each other’s actions, EASC continues to foster dialogue about East Asia among our many communities and constituents.

True to our core mission, we support the offering of less commonly taught languages. As in five previous years, we partnered with the University of Michigan to offer Tibetan language instruction (see page 3). We are in the process of working toward bringing formal Cantonese language instruction in the fall of 2013 in the hope of assuming the role of a host institution for CIC schools in the nearer future. Faculty members with relevant research expertise have paved the way for such a move. ICS Director Marjorie Chan hosted the first ever international conference on Cantonese linguistics in North America (see page 6). In a graduate seminar this winter, I myself taught eighteenth-century Cantonese literature and presented on the topic at national and international conferences. Other members of the OSU faculty have developed Cantonese language learning materials in the past. Between all of these initiatives, OSU aspires to become a center for the study of Cantonese language, linguistics and literature. With further support, we hope to continue.

In keeping with its vision to be a catalyst for advancing research and understanding, in 2012, EASC spearheaded many scholarly events among faculty, students and the public and laid the groundwork for future ones. For instance, IKS Director Mitch Lerner organized a one-day conference on the international relations of North Korea that showcased research based on newly released documents from the former Eastern Bloc (see page 9). As part of a follow-up event for the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia (NCTA) led by myself, we invited producer Jim Butterworth to speak on his most famous film, Seoul Train (see page 11). In the meantime, US director Richard Torrance garnered support from many sources to hold the annual conference of the Association for Japanese Literary Studies to be held at OSU this fall. At the same time, each Institute organized a vigorous lecture series with numerous speakers from all over the US and from abroad, with over 30 lectures on politics, linguistics, literature, the visual arts and religion, among other topics (see pages 12-17). Notably, all three Institutes featured East Asian diplomats and officials from their respective regions in a continued effort to facilitate conversations about US-Asia relations at the level of research, policy and people (see pages 7-9).

2012 has also been a banner year for our students. Not only were we able to support 27 students through FLAS and other fellowship programs, but our students in turn embarked on many cutting edge research projects. Following up on a format pioneered last year, ICS hosted
Center News

From the Director CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

no less than two graduate student forums, ranging across the fields of history of art, literature and history (see pages 4-5). With participation from faculty from all of these fields, students had the opportunity to forge interdisciplinary perspectives on their areas of inquiry. At the same, EASC was able to support several undergraduates and some graduate students in STEM fields to pursue advanced language and studies in an endeavor to train the next generation of globally competent scientists and engineers.

Throughout the year, EASC continued to be a force in the arts. With highly successful partnerships with the Wexner Center, several exhibits organized and co-organized by faculty, and outreach activities involving the arts in schools, we introduced Asia to the new generations of students and to the general public (see pages 7, 10, 19).

We thank you for all your efforts in opening up new vistas of understanding. In the interim, we wish you a productive and enjoyable summer and look forward to your engagement with and support of EASC programs in the academic year to come.

Patricia Sieber, Ph.D.
Director, East Asian Studies Center
Associate Professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures

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Center News

Focus on Academic Programs

EASC-administered interdisciplinary specialization transitions to semester system

Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Chinese Cultural Studies

Interested in adding a Chinese studies specialization to your resume/CV? OSU’s Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Chinese Cultural Studies (GIS in CCS) allows you to do just that. Whether you’re a graduate student interested in one particular disciplinary approach to China or a professional school student not majoring in Asian studies but interested in acquiring a basic familiarity with issues critical to working in or researching this part of the world, the GIS in CCS offers an opportunity to gain what is sometimes a luxury in structured disciplinary programs, the opportunity to make intellectual connections with faculty and students of related interests but from different disciplinary approaches. Such breadth of intellectual exchange—both in terms of content and methodology—will certainly strengthen your research in your own field; but more importantly, from a practical point of view, completing the program will better prepare you to assume responsibilities in positions that increasingly expect interdisciplinary qualifications.

GIS in CCS students choose at least four semester courses (a minimum of 12 credits) from the GIS in CCS course list; courses not included on the list may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Three of four courses must be selected from outside the student’s home department. No more than two courses may be from a single department. And, no more than one course may be a language course, although Chinese language study is strongly encouraged.

The GIS in CCS program is administered by a graduate studies committee made up of graduate faculty whose courses are included in the program’s curriculum. Administration of the committee and program is conducted by a faculty member who is serving simultaneously as Director of the Institute for Chinese Studies. All applications and program files are managed by the East Asian Studies Center.

For further information and application procedures, visit http://easc.osu.edu/grad.html.
Focus on Academic Programs

Tibetan language partnership continues

The partnership with the University of Michigan to offer joint Tibetan language courses continued in academic year 2011-12. Undergraduate and graduate students at OSU were given the opportunity to participate in the courses via live videoconferencing technology. Instructor Sonam Tsering delivered “Introductory Modern/Colloquial Tibetan (Tibetan 101-103)” to classrooms in both Ann Arbor, Michigan and Columbus, Ohio.

Looking forward to academic year 2012-13, “Advanced Modern/Colloquial Tibetan (Tibetan 104-106)” will be offered on the OSU campus utilizing the same infrastructure. For further information on Tibetan language study at OSU, contact EASC’s Amy Carey at carey.189@osu.edu.

Former Tibetan language student learns about Tibet in the museums of Europe

Imagine writing your dissertation on a piece of art you can barely see. That was the dilemma facing Brid Arthur, a PhD candidate in the Department of History of Art. Her focus of study is Tibetan and Buddhist art, and her dissertation is on Lhasa paintings, a small and very specific subset of Tibetan architectural painting. Lhasa paintings are essentially maps, created between 1800 and 1950. Unlike much of Tibetan art, which is often religious or otherwise “otherworldly,” these paintings depict the layout of, and daily life in, the capital city of Lhasa. The problem with this project is that “only some of these paintings are published, and those that are usually just tiny black-and-white photographs. The paintings themselves are enormous — as big as 6 feet by 10 feet — and yet the detail may be less than one inch high. That is simply impossible to see in a small photograph in a book,” Arthur said. Her solution? Study abroad and see the paintings in person.

Thanks to funding from the Office of International Affairs and the Phyllis Krumm Memorial International Scholarship, Arthur was able to spend three months in Europe, visiting Lhasa paintings in Paris, Brussels, Stockholm, Basel, Antwerp and London. Seeing the works up close allowed Arthur to view the afore-mentioned tiny detail, to copy down the miniscule inscriptions — in Tibetan, Nepalese, even English — found on the maps and to investigate the condition of the paintings themselves.

“For example,” explained Arthur, “many of these paintings have vertical cracking on the surface. This indicates that they were rolled up and stored that way for much of the time... these paintings were probably not hung on the wall, but were transported around and brought out to look at only from time to time.”

Visiting the paintings in person also gave Arthur the opportunity to speak with curators, who provided insights on this under-researched phenomenon. These talks revealed everything from why the Lhasa paintings are different from other Tibetan art — “I found that although the paintings form a cohesive set, each painting shows a degree of uniqueness and individuality that is rare in Tibetan art,” — to why they were in the museum in the first place. “They were highly prized by foreign collectors because they described a city which was basically inaccessible,” she explained. Foreign travelers were generally prohibited from visiting Lhasa in the time these paintings were created.

One of Arthur’s favorite conversations concerned the Lhasa painting in the British Museum. “That one is a mystery; no one knows where it came from, or who originally purchased it,” Arthur said. The head of the Tibetan Collection told Arthur about several researchers who have visited that particular painting, and what they each surmised about its origin. Had she not studied abroad, she would not have been privy to the thoughts of the researchers before her, as the theories she discussed with the curator were unpublished. Indeed, Arthur considers all these conversations with curators invaluable, as much of the information gleaned is not published anywhere.

Ultimately, conducting her research abroad allowed Arthur to connect with these works in more ways than one. “Travelling allowed me to see the paintings in person and make a direct connection with them,” she said, “This helps in intimately knowing a painting, its details and its condition. And making an assessment like this is crucial for art historians.”

Graduate Student Brid Arthur visits Paris, France.
Focus on Professionalization of Graduate Students

ICS holds second graduate student forum on modern Chinese art

The Institute for Chinese Studies hosted its second graduate forum, titled “Making Modernity in Twentieth Century Chinese Art,” on Friday, February 10 in Hagerty Hall. The forum included a total of seven presenters. Julia F. Andrews (professor, history of art) delivered the opening remarks. The discussants included Mayumi Kamata (history of art), Ying Zhang (assistant professor, history), and Meow Hui Goh (associate professor, East Asian Languages and Literatures). This event was co-sponsored by the Department of History of Art. For more information, contact Jeffrey Chan at chan.184@osu.edu.

ICS Graduate Forum Presenters:
Ahyoung Yao. “Sanyu: A Transnational Modernity in the Context of Artistic Diaspora”
Christina Mathison. “Hybridity in East Asian Modernity: Chen Chengbo’s Paintings During the Japanese Occupation (1895-1945)”
Effie Yanfei Yin. “Writing” Histories of Art and Literature by Traditionalist Painting: The Construction of Fu Baoshi’s Self-Identity based on Subject Matter of His Painting
Yuling Huang. “Fu Baoshi’s Hua Yuntai Shan Tu: A Modern Interpretation of an Ancient Design”
Mina Kim. “Sharing Artistic Vocabulary between Zhu Da and the Later Generations in Modern China”

Faculty lead graduate forum on cultural production in late imperial and Republican China

On Saturday May 5, the OSU campus bustled with people, events, and ideas. Barack Obama spoke to kick off the election season, the university hosted Ohio’s science fair for STEM high school projects, and the surrounding streets were lined with marathon runners and their fans. Meanwhile, two faculty members, Patricia Sieber (associate professor, East Asian languages and literature) and Ying Zhang (assistant professor, history), together with the Institute for Chinese Studies, had organized an intellectual marathon of their own with a day devoted to an interdisciplinary exploration of cultural production in late imperial and Republican China.

Faculty and graduate students in literature, history of art, and history from OSU and other institutions (Columbia University, University of Oregon, Denison University) participated in “The Refashioning of New Cultural Spaces: Between Print, Performance and Visuality in Late Imperial and Republican China.” Professor Shang Wei delivered the keynote address the day before with a thought-provoking lecture on the visual aspects of the “Story of the Stone” phenomenon. He also offered opening remarks, inviting the participants to further rethink the May Fourth legacy that has framed the understanding of late imperial and modern literature. The forum was devised to engage interdisciplinary discussion by pairing each of the four graduate student presenters with two faculty members from different disciplines, periods, or areas other than the core discipline of the students’ respective projects. Together with the formal commentary, the questions, and the discussions, the papers invited the participants to rethink categories of literati identity, gender, authorship, performance, religion, visuality, and the cultural and social spaces that underwrite them. This event was co-sponsored by the Institute for Chinese Studies, the East Asian Studies Center and the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5
Graduate forum on cultural production CONTINUED

"The ICS Graduate Forum was an impressive experience for me. As its title suggested, the forum was not limited to the field of Chinese literature and culture, but offered a platform for interdisciplinary studies, including history, sociology, literature, performance and print culture. The discussions of each panel presentation not only deepened my understanding of my own paper on the terms of illustrations, commentaries and performances in different editions of "The Sixth Book of Genius," but also broadened my view of the courtesan culture of Late Ming, gender issues in the Qing dynasty and the theatrical panorama in the Republican period."

Chen Qin, modern Chinese literature, East Asian languages and literatures, OSU

"I presented part of my ongoing PhD dissertation project "Participatory Citizens, Performance-related Intellectuals and Modern Chinese Drama, 1902-1949." The interdisciplinary and immersive nature of this Forum was particularly stimulating for me. Not only was I able to articulate my own preliminary research findings and concerns to a broader audience, but I had a chance to enter into an in-depth dialogue with senior faculty and graduate student peers. The interdisciplinary nature of the forum inspired me to think about how to position my own research at the nexus of a range of different fields: multiple regions (China and Japan); multiple media (print, visual, and performance), and multiple disciplines (literary, cultural, and historical). I previously read about such exciting interdisciplinary conversations and had long wished to be part of a similar venture. The Forum made this dream come true!"

He Man, modern Chinese literature, East Asian languages and literatures, OSU

"I presented part of my dissertation project "Empire on the Move: Scholar-Beauty Fiction, Culture, and Ethnicity in Qing China." The Forum was very helpful for graduate students such as myself who have been working on their dissertation projects yet also feel challenged by the range of relevant primary sources and by the need to synthesize competing frameworks. Compared to regular academic conferences, the intense feedback from two faculty members as introducers and discussants offered a precious opportunity for me and the other graduate students to be exposed to observations and suggestions from experts in different, yet related disciplines. Thanks to the format of the forum, I not only collected a lot of comments on my own research, but I was also inspired by other presenters' projects and participants' insights about them. Egged on by such inspiration, I am confident that my dissertation project will engage both literary and cultural history in new ways."

Mengjun Li, late imperial Chinese literature, East Asian languages and literatures, OSU

Leaving behind the long rainy spring in Eugene, I basked in the sunshine in Columbus and in the shower of intellectual sparks generated at the ICS Forum. It was at once a pleasant and stimulating experience. In fact, the format of this workshop is the most productive that I have ever experienced. Two professors, one serving as an introducer, another as a discussant, read each student's paper, along with formal talks from Prof. Shang Wei from Columbia University and interwoven with many other inspiring conversations over lunch and dinner. I presented my paper—"Ma Xianglan and Her Talented Men: The Late Ming Courtesan On-stage and Off-stage, at Sea and Overseas"—in order to reconsider the problematic universal package of "the late Ming courtesan" against the national narratives of China, Vietnam and Japan. This experience offered valuable feedback much needed for graduate students who are struggling to get through their academic "bottleneck," that is, to produce cutting edge research through an engagement with diverse points of view. As a return visitor to OSU, the alma mater for my MA degree, I was most grateful for the willingness of faculty members to mentor students beyond the confines of their fields and their institutions.

Zhao Mi, Chinese history, University of Oregon
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Focus on Professionalization of Graduate Students CONTINUED

First Cantonese linguistics event in North America held at OSU

On March 16-17, 2012, the first event held in North America that was devoted solely to Cantonese linguistics, “Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics (WICL),” was held in Hagerty Hall on The Ohio State University campus, organized by OSU’s Graduate Association of Chinese Linguistics (GACL) and the Institute for Chinese Studies. The organizing committee consisted of Professor Marjorie Chan (ICS Director and DEALL faculty member) and Tsz-Him Tsui (linguistics) as co-chairs, with Professor Zhiguo Xie, Yutian Yan, and Litong Chen (DEALL) as committee members. They were aided by ICS Assistant Director, Jeffrey Chan, and other GACL officers and GACL members, as well as faculty members in Speech and Hearing Sciences, DEALL, Linguistics, and other units. WICL was co-sponsored by the Buckeye Language Network, which provided the initial, generous grant for the workshop; East Asian Studies Center; Council on Student Affairs; Humanities Division of the College of Arts and Sciences; East Asian Languages and Literatures; and Linguistics.

Presentations followed the theme of WICL, which focused on language variations in modern Cantonese, as well as technological and methodological innovations in the study of Cantonese. Twenty-six presenters from five countries/regions—United States, Canada, Hong Kong, United Kingdom and Italy—representing 16 institutions, gathered to participate in the 1 1/2-day workshop with more than 80 attendees. This included presenters, attendees and a host of faculty and students at Ohio State and neighboring Ohio University in Athens, Ohio. Highlighting the workshop were three keynote speakers: Professor Alan Yu (University of Chicago), Professor Anne Oi-Kan Yue (University of Washington), and Professor Benjamin Ka-Yin Tsou (Hong Kong Institute of Education). Other international scholars who presented were Professor Picus Ding (University of Hong Kong), Professors Roxana Suk-Yee Fung, Cathy Wong and Kwan Hin Cheung (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Professor Carine Yuk-Man Yiu (Hong Kong University of Science & Technology), Professor Naomi Nagy and her two undergraduate students, Tiffany Chung and Josephine Tong (University of Toronto), as well as doctoral students May Chan (University of Oxford) and Chi-Fung Lam (Ca’ Foscari University of Venice).

Concurring with its theme of technological innovations, WICL was successful in utilizing video-conferencing technologies, allowing three presenters to be “beamed” in from world-wide locations, including Professor Andy Chin (HK Institute of Education) and Professor Anthony Pak Hin Kong (University of Central Florida). The workshop also showcased five Cantonese corpora, documenting the Cantonese language at different diachronic stages.

WICL welcomed back to the Ohio State campus several alumni, Professor Dana Scott Bourgerie (Brigham Young University), Professor Zheng-sheng Zhong (San Diego State University), Professor Roxana Suk-Yee Fung (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Dr. Chunsheng Yang (Northwestern University), and keynote speaker Professor Anne Oi-Kan Yue (a.k.a. Anne Yue-Hashimoto), a world-renowned linguist in Chinese dialectology and Yue (Cantonese) dialectology.

The event concluded with discussions of publishing the WICL proceedings, future plans for hosting WICL, potentially at the University of Chicago hosted by Professor Alan Yu, and Professor Dana Bourgerie’s plans to revue the website for the Cantonese Language Association. For further information on WICL, see http://ling.osu.edu/wicl/.
Focus on US-East Asian Relations

Cherry tree gift leads to educational opportunities for Columbus students

This spring, the city of Columbus was honored to receive a gift of 20 cherry trees as part of the Centennial Celebration of the Gift of Trees from the government of Japan to the US. The trees, provided by American Forests, are to be planted at the Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens. In an April 27 ceremony, in part to observe Arbor Day and in remembrance of the Great Tohoku Earthquake and Tsunami, the trees were potted and various aspects of Japanese culture were shared. Both electronic images of what the trees will look like in full bloom and pictures of cherry trees in Japan, in Washington DC and in Dublin, OH were displayed. A larger tree was displayed with a plaque to commemorate the gift and is available for public viewing until the 20 trees have matured enough to be planted in the ground.

The ceremony, coordinated by the Conservatory, the Institute for Japanese Studies and the Japan-America Society of Central Ohio, opened with taiko drumming from Hiuchi Taiko. Columbus Mayor Michael C. Coleman led the event with a welcome, and former Governor of the State of Ohio, Robert A. Taft, II, talked about his connection to the original cherry tree gift to Washington DC through his great grandmother. Finally, Mr. Kuninori Matsuda, Consul General of Japan in Detroit, discussed the ties between Japan and both the US and Ohio. A ceremonial planting of the trees was followed by students from Fort Hayes Arts & Academic High School singing “Sakura,” under the direction of Ken Matsuda, member of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra.

The Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership awarded a grant to the Institute for Japanese Studies for incorporation of a K-12 educational component into this project. Working with Columbus area schools, projects started in February 2012 and were presented at lunchtime during the planting ceremony. Five schools participated (Arts Impact Middle School, Champion Middle School, Columbus School for Girls, 5th Ave International K-8 and Fort Hayes Arts & Academic High School), reaching over 260 students. Projects included traditional storytelling technique, kanishibai; Japanese paper cranes; and Ohio Boxes to represent schools.

Event Sponsors: 200Columbus The Bicentennial, Central Ohio Japanese Association of Commerce (COJAC), Columbus 2020, Corina Koskiing Construction Company, Consulate General of Japan in Detroit, Franklin Park Conservatory and Botanical Gardens, Greater Columbus Arts Council, Hidaka USA, Inc., Honda of America Mfg., Inc., Institute for Japanese Studies, Japan-America Society of Central Ohio, Japan Foundation: Center for Global Partnership, Japan Commerce Association of Washington DC, Jeni’s Splendid Ice Creams, Japanese Chamber of Commerce and Industry of New York, Mercer, Mozart’s Bakery & Piano Cafe, Prizer, U.S. Department of Education Title VI Grant and Vorys, Sater, Seymour & Pease LLP.

TOP: Planting Ceremony (left to right): Honorary Consul General of Ohio, Phil Barth; Former Governor Robert A. Taft, II; Consul General Kuninori Matsuda and spouse; Mark Corna, Corina Koskiing Construction Company and JASCO President; Mayor Michael C. Coleman.
MIDDLE: Students from 5th Ave. International K-8 stand with their project, the paper cranes.
BOTTOM: Hiuchi Taiko, under the direction of Eric Paton opened the 2012 Japan-U.S. Cherry Blossom Centennial Nationwide Cherry Tree Planting on April 27 in Columbus, Ohio.
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Focus on US-East Asian Relations

ICS and Mershon Center host
Fifth Annual CHINA Town Hall

Held on November 16, "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 fifth annual program featured a nationwide webcast by Zbigniew Brzezinski, counselor and trustee of the Center for Strategic & International Studies in Washington DC, which was moderated by Stephen A. Orlins, president of the National Committee on US-China Relations. The on-site presentation at OSU was led by Jennifer Turner, who presented, "Choke Point: Understanding the Tightening Conflict between Energy and Water in China."

In addition to meetings and publications, Turner has coordinated several research exchange activities, bringing together Chinese, US, and other Asian experts on issues of energy and climate cooperation, environmental civil society groups, environmental justice, river basin governance, water conflict resolution and municipal financing of environmental infrastructure. The China Environment Forum’s central work for the past year has focused on creating meetings and a new series of research briefs for the Cooperative Competitors: Building New U.S.-China Energy and Climate Networks initiative. CEF’s other main project is Choke Point: China, in which CEF and Michigan-based NGO, Circle of Blue, have researched and reported on China’s water-energy confrontation and produced 16 online multimedia reports (www.circleofblue.org/chokepointchina).

Foreign representatives and international speakers visit OSU

In 2011-2012, ICS has been active in hosting numerous foreign dignitaries, government representatives and international speakers on topics of US-East Asian relations.

On October 19, ICS and the Mershon Center for International Security Studies met with a delegation from Chinese Culture University of Taiwan led by Hsien Ou-Yang, vice president for international programs. The meeting consisted of a discussion of faculty and student exchanges and potential research collaboration.

Anita Chan, director of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in New York City, shared her insight on Hong Kong as a leading logistical and financial center for multinational corporations, in a talk at OSU on May 2. She discussed how Hong Kong continues to develop as a commercial and trading center as well as its growing economic interaction with the Pearl River Delta, which helps Hong Kong maintain its position as a gateway to China. The event was also supported by the Graduate School, Office of International Affairs and Fisher College of Business.

In late October, ICS hosted Eisenhower Fellow Men Honghua, deputy director of the Center of International Strategic Studies and KP Chair Professor at the China Central Party School. Dr. Men has significantly advanced academic research centered on international relations theory and strategic studies, and is currently directing a project titled “The Construction of China’s Soft Power.” In addition to his academic responsibilities, he participates in policy coordination activities and advises on China’s national decision-making. Dr. Men is focusing his fellowship on deepening his understanding of US–China relations, examining American views on soft power theory, and exchanging ideas with peers.

On April 16, ICS collaborated with the Mershon Center for International Security Studies, OSU’s Middle East Studies Center and Wittenberg University to host Zhu Feng, deputy director of the Center for International and Strategic Studies at Peking University. Yu Bin, director of East Asian Studies at Wittenberg University, delivered the opening remarks while Zhu lectured on “China’s Policies toward the Middle East.”
Focus on US-East Asian Relations CONTINUED

IKS convenes conference on North Korea’s Cold War

The Institute for Korean Studies, in conjunction with the East Asian Studies Center, Mershon Center for International Security Studies, the Office of International Affairs, and the Woodrow Wilson Center for Scholars, sponsored a one-day conference on North Korean international relations during the Cold War, on February 27 at the Mershon Center. North Korea’s extraordinary secrecy and internal repression has generally prevented Western scholars from exploring its Cold War experience. As a result, the country remains to many an enigma, a land of provocation and intrigue that is often criticized but rarely understood. Then came the liquidation of the Soviet empire, and with it a torrent of new information from the archives of North Korea’s former communist allies. Records from the embassies of Russia, East Germany, Poland, Romania, Albania, Hungary and elsewhere, pulled back the curtain of secrecy that had long enshrouded North Korea, and for the first time allowed outsiders to begin to understand the policies of the “Hermit Kingdom.” By utilizing these materials, the eleven speakers at this conference examined the inner workings and foreign relations of North Korea during the Cold War, and in doing so, opened a virtually unparalleled window into the nation’s use of force and diplomacy during the Cold War and beyond.

For more details about this event, visit http://mershoncenter.osu.edu/events/11-12events/Feb12/northkoreaconffeb27.htm.

Professor Han Park speaks on leadership change in North Korea

The Institute for Korean Studies, in co-sponsorship with the East Asian Studies Center, the Mershon Center for International Security Studies and the Department of History, hosted Dr. Han S. Park, University Professor of Public and International Affairs and Director of the Center for the Study of Global Issues (GLOBIS) at the University of Georgia, to discuss the future of the Korean Peninsula in the wake of the death of Kim Jong Il. In his February 8 talk titled “Kim Jong Un in North Korea: Implications for the Region and Beyond,” Park examined such issues as how the North Korean policymaking process works; whether Kim Jong Un can establish a stable government; the extent and impact of grassroots dissent on policymaking; the role of the military; likely DPRK conduct towards other nations during the transition, and how Kim’s death might impact the nation’s nuclear program.

LEFT: IKS Director Mitchell Leiner poses for a photo with Professor Han S. Park who lectured as part of the IKS lecture series.
Focus on Film Studies

Director of Close to the Sun visits campus to screen film

World-renowned director Chou Chou screened her film, Close to the Sun, on February 2 on The Ohio State University campus. The film, which won Best Cinematography and Best Foreign Language Film at the 2011 Sedona International Film Festival, is set in a Dong ethnic minority village in Guizhou, China. A thematically and visually arresting film, Close to the Sun is the story of a woman afflicted with an unknown disease who is searching for a final place to travel. She travels around the world and ends up in a remote village in Guizhou, China. Here, she discovers people belonging to the Dong ethnic minority group, whose values and way of life provide her both a sense of hope and peace.

Director Chou Chou, who is herself of Miao and Dong ethnic minority, presented the film and led a discussion with the audience. This event was co-sponsored by the National East Asian Languages Resource Center, the Chinese Flagship Program, and the Institute for Chinese Studies.

ICS and Center for African Studies screen When China Met Africa

The Institute for Chinese Studies and the Center for African Studies screened When China Met Africa on April 18. When China Met Africa is a 2010 documentary exploring the economic relationship between China and Zambia. After the screening, Director of the Center for African Studies Kelechi Kalu and political science PhD candidate Xiaoyu Pu led a lively and heated discussion about the film.

The film follows a historic gathering of over 50 African heads of state in Beijing which reverberates in Zambia where the lives of three characters unfold. Mr. Liu is one of thousands of Chinese entrepreneurs who have settled across the continent in search of new opportunities. He has just bought his fourth farm and business is booming. In northern Zambia, Mr. Li, a project manager for a multinational Chinese company is upgrading the country’s longest road. Pressure to complete the road on time intensifies when funds from the Zambian government start running out. Meanwhile, Zambia’s Trade Minister is en route to China to secure millions of dollars of investment. Through the intimate portrayal of these characters, the expanding footprint of a rising global power is laid bare—pointing to a radically different future, not just for Africa, but also for the world.

Cao Yu exhibition and film displayed at OSU in Winter 2012

On March 2, ICS screened “The Wilderness” (a.k.a “The Savage Land”). Adapted from Cao Yu’s 1937 play and produced in 1981, “the Wilderness” was not released until 1987. Kirk Denton, professor of East Asian languages and literatures delivered the opening remarks and lectured about Cao Yu’s life. The film screening was held in conjunction with the traveling exhibition “Cao Yu (1910-1996): Pioneer in Modern Chinese Drama,” created by Li Ruru of the University of Leeds. The exhibition was conceived to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Cao Yu, arguably the greatest of modern Chinese playwrights. The exhibition was displayed at OSU’s Thompson Library from February 6 to March 4, 2012, with sponsorship from the East Asian Studies Center.
Award-winning documentary *Seoul Train* screened for campus community and teacher seminar

The East Asian Studies Center, in collaboration with the Institute for Korean Studies and the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia, presented two screenings of the award-winning documentary *Seoul Train*, in conjunction with a special introduction and question-and-answer session with Jim Butterworth, the film’s producer and documentarian. *Seoul Train* exposes the life-and-death struggle faced by North Koreans who attempt to flee their homeland through China, a country that does not recognize their legal status as refugees. Jim Butterworth’s film features courageous individuals from all over the world who put their own lives at risk to operate Asia’s own Underground Railroad, a network of safe houses and hidden routes through China set up to lead refugees to freedom in South Korea.

On May 16, *Seoul Train* was screened for the campus community and general public in Hagerty Hall, featuring an introduction by IKS Director Mitchell Lerner and question-and-answer session with the filmmaker Jim Butterworth. The following day, the film was presented in conjunction with a follow-up activity for participants of the 2011 National Consortium for Teaching about Asia program, held in Columbus, Ohio. The participants, middle and high school teachers from Central Ohio, regrouped to discuss implementation of the East Asia-themed lesson plans they created as part of the seminar, and to learn about this new topic of North Korean refugees. Seminar instructor, Patricia Sieber, also director of EASC, led the discussion, and Lerner again introduced the film and the speaker. Butterworth led a lively discussion about the film to help teachers incorporate this topic into their curriculum.

According to *Seoul Train*, an estimated 250,000 North Korean refugees live in China. Having escaped starvation and torture at the hands of the NK regime, refugees must continue to fight for survival. The Chinese government systematically raids homes, train stations and even taxis looking for NKs who they categorize as illegal immigrants. Chinese citizens are rewarded for turning in NKs living silently among them.

*Seoul Train* has been translated into more than 20 languages and broadcast globally, including on the Emmy Award-winning PBS series, *Independent Lens*. *Seoul Train* has been in competition at more than 100 international film festivals (winning more than a dozen awards), and has inspired countless grassroots and policy-level actions worldwide. In 2007, *Seoul Train* was bestowed the Alfred I. duPont – Columbia University Award for excellence in broadcast journalism and investigative reporting, the most prestigious prize in television and radio news, and the broadcast equivalent of the Pulitzer Prize. For more information about the film, visit http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/seoultrain/film.html.

TOP: IKS Director Mitchell Lerner (left) introduces filmmaker Jim Butterworth at a teacher training event.

BOTTOM: NCTA-Ohio 2011 participants gather with instructor Patricia Sieber (front center), Mitchell Lerner (front right) and Jim Butterworth (back left) at Kasa Restaurant for the follow-up event.
Focus on Japanese Language and Society

US delves into “Teaching Japan: Language, Society and Popular Culture” through 2011-12 lecture series

The Institute for Japanese Studies hosted an active lecture series during 2011-12 around theme of “Teaching Japan: Language, Society and Popular Culture.” The series kicked off on February 15 with Dr. Yasuhiro Shirai, professor and chair of the Department of Linguistics at the University of Pittsburgh. In his talk, “Second Language Acquisition Research and Second Language Instruction: A Functional Approach,” Shirai examined the mechanism of grammar acquisition in SLA and explored how linguistic categories can be acquired effectively. He examined two linguistic domains—tense-aspect and relative clauses—of which acquisition process has been uncovered to some degree, and considered how their acquisition can be facilitated, in particular in relation to the projection model (Zobl, 1985). This event was co-sponsored by the Institute for Japanese Studies, Buckeye Language Network, Arts and Sciences Innovation grant for the Study of Language Variation, Foreign Language Center, Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Second Language Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Department of French and Italian, Department of Linguistics, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, East Asian Studies Center and a US Department of Education Title VI Grant.

On February 24, IJS hosted Dr. Ryuko Kubota, professor in the Department of Language and Literacy Education at the University of British Columbia. In her talk, “Is English a Lingua Franca?: Communication in the Workplace for Japanese Expatriates in China,” she discussed that there are two prevailing assumptions in foreign language teaching: that nonnative English-speaking people from different linguistic backgrounds use English as a lingua franca to communicate with each other and that learning to develop English proficiency is absolutely required for transcultural work. Based on a qualitative study focusing on major Japanese manufacturing companies with subsidiaries in China, Kubota discussed the language use of Japanese expatriates and Chinese office workers in China as well as the views of participants (including managers in Japan) about knowledge, skills and dispositions deemed important for overseas work.

The findings question the universal usefulness of English and raise the importance of developing competencies and dispositions for border-crossing communication in any language including one’s native language. This event was co-sponsored by the Institute for Japanese Studies, Buckeye Language Network, Arts and Sciences Innovation grant for the Study of Language Variation, Foreign Language Center, Graduate Interdisciplinary Specialization in Second Language Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, Department of French and Italian, Department of Linguistics, Department of Spanish and Portuguese, East Asian Studies Center and a US Department of Education Title VI Grant.

Dr. Kinko Ito, professor of sociology and anthropology at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, was the next speaker in the series, on March 1. She spoke on her new book, A Sociology of Japanese Ladies’ Comics: Images of the Life, Loves, and Sexual Fantasies of Adult Japanese Women, about the history, content and functions of ladies’ comics, the most recent addition to the modern comics in Japan. Being a significant part of Japanese popular culture, manga (Japanese comics) as texts can be an extremely important subject matter for sociology, especially visual sociology, comparative cultural studies, gender studies and anthropology. Co-sponsors of this event include the Institute for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, OSU Libraries, East Asian Studies Center and a US Department of Education Title VI Grant.

On April 13, Edward Mack, associate professor of Asian language and literature at the University of Washington, spoke on “Obscured by the Nation: ‘Japanese’ Literature in Brazil.” He explained that 1908 marked the beginning of mass migration from Japan to Brazil. Within a decade, Japanese-language literature—some produced in Japan and some produced locally—had become a part of daily life. Such texts continue to be produced to this day in Brazil, home of the largest population of persons of Japanese descent outside Japan. While recent scholarship has explored Japanese-language literary activity in the former colonies of the Japanese Empire, less attention has been paid to that of the “Japanese diaspora.” This talk focused on the production and consumption of Japanese-language literature in pre-World War II Brazil. This event was co-sponsored by the Institute for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, East Asian Studies Center, Center for Latin American Studies and a US Department of Education Title VI Grant.
The next speaker in the series, Dr. Michael Como, Tosho Fukamo Associate Professor of Shinzo Studies at Columbia University, spoke on April 27 on “Ghostly Hordes, Household Gods, and the Ying Yang Masters of Heian Japan.” As Como explained, although often remembered as times of courtly grandeur, Japan’s Nara (710-794) and early Heian (794-898) periods witnessed a series of convulsive cultural and demographic upheavals of extraordinary magnitude and frequency. As urbanization and epidemics reshaped the physical and cultural landscape of the Japanese islands, they helped engender new religious and cultural forms that both reflected and helped shape a new equilibrium among the spiritual forces of the land. This talk addressed the question of how profound shifts in the ecological and religious terrain in ancient Japan may have helped spur the Heian capital’s rise to prominence of the Yin Yang masters on the one hand, and widespread fear of marauding ghosts on the other. This event was co-sponsored by the Institute for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and the East Asian Studies Center.

On May 4, IJS hosted Dr. Jeffrey Angles, associate professor of Japanese literature and translation studies at Western Michigan University, who delivered “How to Turn a Lilac into a Peony: The Territory of Translation in Meiji Japan.” Como described how, in many ways, modern Japan is a nation of translation. Nowhere is this any more true than in the Meiji Period (1868-1912), the era during which Japan undertook an ambitious and radically transformative project of modernization in every field, including literature. This presentation looked at the ways that Japanese writers, in the earliest modern translation of Western writing into Japanese, dealt with the foreignness of those texts and the ways that those writers radically transformed the destiny of modern Japanese literature. Co-sponsors for this event included the Institute for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and the East Asian Studies Center.

The next speaker in this series, on May 11, was Dr. Patricia Wetzel, professor of Japanese at Portland State University, who is also serving as interim vice provost for international affairs. Dr. Wetzel’s talk, titled “Language in Public Spaces of Japan,” focused on the proliferation of signs and advertisements in Japan to provide a window into the relationship between language and place. After a comparison of English pronouns and Japanese honorifics, or keigo, Wetzel explored how Japanese honorifics refer to readers in public locations. It is a fact of modern life that grammatical conventions, presumably originating in face-to-face communication, are lifted out and applied to the impersonal interactions that we encounter everywhere in the world. Co-sponsors included the Institute for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and the East Asian Studies Center.

The series concluded on May 16 with a talk by the Consul General of Japan in Detroit, Mr. Kuninori Matsuda. Mr. Matsuda spoke on “The Importance of Learning Japanese in Ohio,” emphasizing the benefits of being proficient in the Japanese language while going into detail about the breadth of opportunity for Japanese language speakers right here in Ohio. Mr. Matsuda seeks to advance important initiatives of the Consulate, including the promotion of trade and business development between Japan and the United States, supporting the study of Japanese language and culture throughout Michigan and Ohio, and nurturing the excellent relationship between the United States and Japan through various educational and cultural activities and exchanges. Co-sponsors included the Institute for Japanese Studies, Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures and the East Asian Studies Center.
Focus on Korean Studies

IKS Lecture Series features numerous faculty, artists, and business leaders

The Institute for Korean Studies hosted an active lecture series during 2011-12 on a variety of topics. The first event featured Dr. Dongwook Seo, associate professor of philosophy at Sogang University of South Korea and visiting scholar in the department of East Asian languages and literatures, The Ohio State University. His lecture, titled “The Anonymity—A Core Philosophical Background for the Contemporary Korean Poems,” took place on November 21. Seo argued that, historically, Korean poets were attracted to the practice of “naming” in their poetry-writing, but by contrast, the poets of today find their calling in anonymity, which is born as a result of the collapse of “names.”

The next lecture in the series was delivered by Young-chan Ro, professor of religious studies and director of liberal studies at George Mason University. His lecture, titled “Korean Diaspora, Korean Christianity, and Cultural Challenge,” took place on January 27. Ro’s talk discussed the unique phenomenon of Korean transmigration from cultural and religious perspectives. This event was co-sponsored by the East Asian Studies Center and the Center for the Study of Religion.

The Institute for Korean Studies hosted a lecture by Dae-Kyun Kim, artist, preserver of the tightrope performance and Korea’s Intangible Cultural Asset Number 58, on February 2. Jul-noreum or “tightrope performance,” is a traditional Korean art that dates back over 1,300 years. From atop the rope hung high in the air, the performer demonstrates acrobatic skills while verbally entertaining the audience. More than just an acrobatic performance, Jul-noreum is a celebration of the traditional arts and culture of Korea. In this special lecture, Kim shared the art and history of Jul-noreum, and played recordings of some of his awe-inspiring performance feats.

On February 9, IKS hosted Dr. Joon-sik Choi, professor of Korean studies at Ewha Womans University in South Korea, who delivered a lecture titled “Characteristics of Korean Culture from the Perspective of Korean Traditional Arts.” Choi argued that modern

Photo exhibit of the U.S. Peace Corps in Korea displayed on campus

During Spring 2012, IKS was pleased to present “A Story of Volunteerism: Americans in Korea, Koreans in the World,” a 30-piece photo exhibit which celebrates the experiences of the U.S. Peace Corps in Korea and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). On May 3, a reception was held in the Ohio Union, featuring a keynote address by Mr. Jon Keeton, former director of Peace Corps Korea and regional director for Peace Corps in North Africa, Near East, Asia and the Pacific.

This program was organized by the Institute for Korean Studies and the Friends of Korea, an affiliated Peace Corps volunteers from sponsors include the Korean Student Association Zeta Sorority (OTZ), Department of Languages and Literatures, Department of International Student Organization Multicultural Center, Ohio Union, College of Arts and Sciences, and the Department of English Language Improvement

[LEFT], FORMER PEACE CORPS VOLUNTEER NOW PROFESSOR OF LINGUISTICS AT OSU; JON KEETON (CENTER), FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS IN KOREA AND FORMER DIRECTOR OF THE PEACE CORPS FOR THE ASIA PACIFIC; AND CURRENT PRESIDENT OF FRIENDS OF KOREA; MELISSA LERNER (RIGHT) AT EVENT.
Koreans tend to think that what they now call “tradition” dates back to very ancient times. In fact, however, the majority of what is referred to as tradition was a relatively modern invention of the 19th century, during the late Joseon Dynasty. In his talk, he examined the arts of the late Joseon period, which is thought to best represent a modern sense of ‘Koreaness.’ He argued that the Korean yearning for disorderliness and spontaneity is embodied in countless artworks from this period. This event was co-sponsored by the Department of History.

Next, IKS hosted Dr. Mark Peterson, associate professor of Korean language and literature at Brigham Young University. Dr. Peterson’s lecture, titled “Korean History Upside-Down: Why Traditional Historians Have It Wrong,” took place on March 7. Peterson argued that Korea’s history of the 20th century has been a narrative of victimization—taken over by the Japanese, divided by the Americans and Russians, plunged into a war not of their choosing. Historians in both Korea and the United States are now endorsing a more positive view of Korea’s history, one that reflects the active role played by the nation itself and that helped bring Korea to the important position it now holds in world affairs. This event was co-sponsored by the Department of History.

Finally, Dr. Michael Lee, President and CEO of Korea’s LG Academy, visited campus on April 10 to present “Are Companies Machines or Living Organisms?,” in collaboration with the Fisher College of Business. Dr. Lee is a graduate of the Fisher College’s MLHR program. After several years of teaching at the university level in the US, Dr. Lee was recruited by the LG corporation, where he is now the CEO of LG Academy, a large company within the LG group that provides training and development services not only to other LG companies, but also to a variety of firms in Korea and surrounding countries.

ICS holds Chinese-language lecture series

Zhang Xiaosong, professor of anthropology at Guizhou Normal University and member of the Standing Committee of the 11th National People’s Congress of Guizhou, delivered a lecture on the tourism industry in Southwest China for the Institute for Chinese Studies’ Chinese-language lecture series. She is the author of more than ten books and 30 research articles about Guizhou culture. In 2006, she published Symbols and Rituals, a major compilation of research on Guizhou’s ethnic culture and history. On February 3, Zhang lectured on “Symbols and Rituals: An Illustrated Introduction to the Civilizations of Guizhou’s Mountains.” Guizhou Province, located in southwest China, is at the center of the South China Karst World Heritage site. This picturesque but ecologically fragile region has long been cut off from the outside world. Guizhou has over 5 million people living on less than $240 a year, but it is rich in ethnic diversity. It is home to populations of the Han, Miao, Dong, Buyi, Yi, Shui, Yao and 18 other ethnic groups.

Since the mid-1990s, many international organizations have joined the Chinese government in becoming interested in preserving the cultural heritage of the area, Zhang explained. They are trying to find the best way to maintain the unique beauty of this area while creating responsible and sustainable means of supporting the community. Under the impact of the nationwide “economic revolution,” Zhang discussed whether Guizhou can create the perfect solution for improving lives while protecting traditional culture.

Zhang’s lecture was co-sponsored by National East Asian Languages Resource Center and Chinese Flagship Program. The lecture was interpreted by Patrick McAlloon, senior lecturer in East Asian Languages and Literatures.
Focus on Chinese Culture

"Cultures in Contact" lecture series commemorates 100th anniversary of the end of the Qing dynasty and the establishment of the Republic of China

The 2011-12 academic year commemorates the 100th anniversary of the end of the Qing dynasty and the establishment of the Republic of China. With the Republican Revolution of 1911-1912, China ended over two millennia of imperial rule and many more millennia of dynastic rule. As part of the "Cultures in Contact" lecture series, the 100th anniversary marks the pivotal juncture in history that saw China's expanded contact with the West and the end of foreign imperial rule of the Han Chinese by her Manchu sovereigns. And more broadly, the "Cultures in Contact" lecture series serves to promote and commemorate the rich cultural heritage and contacts within China, as well as across the geographical region to its neighbors in Asia and beyond, encompassing "the West" and the many other regions of the world that China eventually encountered as it entered the modern era.

In early November 2011, Tsun-Hui Hung, lecturer of ethnomusicology at The Ohio State University, presented "One Music? Two Musics? How Many Musics?: Cognitive Ethnomusicological, Behavioral, and fMRI Study on Vocal and Instrumental Rhythm Processing." Her lecture explored whether there are differences in processing of vocal and instrumental rhythms. A set of experiments investigated how humans process these two types of rhythm through reaction time measurements in behavioral experiments and through brain activation measurements in functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) experiments. The results are compatible with the idea that both vocal music and speech may originate from a common vocal communication system, whereas instrumental music originated from an accompanying system that produced sounds via manual activities.

2011 wrapped up with Barry Keenan, professor of history at Denison University. His lecture, "Confucian Learning as the Qing Ceded to the Republic," addressed Confucian revivals. The Confucian revival in the PRC began to get traction in the mid-1990s, and had benefited from much cross-fertilization from outside of China proper. But one issue that bedevils the movement inside and outside of China is the precept Confucius himself made clear: without its actual practice, a moral value is not even fully understood. The final moment in China's recent history when some societal support was still possible for the actual practice of lifelong Confucian virtues was in the late-Qing. So what was the most sophisticated and up-to-date version of Confucian ethics as taught and practiced in 1895? As Keenan argues, this version can be a legitimate platform for later revivals.

ICS welcomed 2012 with a lecture by Eugenia Lean, associate professor of East Asian languages and cultures at Columbia University. Her lecture, "Men, Make-up and Chinese Modernity: Chen Dixian's Recipes for Manufacturing Success in the Woman's World (Nüzi shijie) (1915)" focused on modernity and gender issues during Republican China. In 1910s China, journals such as Nüzi shijie (Women's World) began to run columns and articles that provided highly detailed technical information not only on how to purchase, but on how to produce homemade soap, hair tonic, perfume and rouge. Hardly recipes for middle-class housewives, these writings enabled a new group of urban—mostly male—elites to find technical know-how and production knowledge desirable as they engaged in carving out new identities and establishing new ways of knowing in the first decade of China's newly-minted Republic. Male editors and readers quite literally "domesticated" the technical knowledge as their own by appropriating the woman's voice and positioning this new production and scientific knowledge within the domestic everyday realm as a counterpoint to "public" political knowledge. The treatment of the domestic as scientific laboratory served moreover as a metaphor for the larger marketplace in treaty ports that was outside of the reach of the state, and where scientific, commercial and manufacturing knowledge increasingly displaced moral knowledge and statecraft as the preferred epistemological foundations for a competitive nation.

Xiao Mei Chen, professor and chair of East Asian Languages and Cultures at University of California at Davis, continued the lecture series with "The Color Scheme of Three Revolutionary Epics in Socialist China (1964-2006): Red Legend, Gray Performance, or Black Restoration to Capitalism." This power-point presentation examined the images and messages of three "song and dance revolutionary epics" in the PRC from 1964 to 2009. First, it examines the impact of The East Is Red, which showcased some of the best talents in performing arts in the first 17 years after the founding of the PRC from 1949 to 1966. Still treasured in post-Mao China, The East is Red became a model for the creation of The Song of the Chinese Revolution premiered in 1984, a so-called "sister performance," to celebrate the 35th anniversary of the founding of the PRC. The 2009 performance of The Road to Prosperity to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the founding of the PRC, however, departed from its two precursor texts by highlighting post-Mao political regimes and their "capitalist" approach to rescue China from national disasters. This event was co-sponsored by DEALL.

Spring quarter's "Cultures in Contact" began with Matthew Wells' (assistant professor of Chinese language
and culture and director of Chinese studies at University of Kentucky) “Conforming to the Cosmos: Esoteric Daoist Lifewriting and Official Biography in Early China.” His presentation examined several genres of lifewriting in pre-modern China. First, he discussed the esoteric hagiography of the Daoist “perfected,” Lord Pei (Peijun zhuai) from the Seven Tales of the Cloudy Satchel, a Song Daoist collection, and both the esoteric instructions for transcendence found in the text and the way in which the biographical narrative reflects this transcendence. Then, Wells addressed the official biography of Wang Dao (276-339) from the History of the Jin, an early Tang dynasty historical work, and examined the narrative of state sanctioned historiography as a form of hagiography. This event was co-sponsored by the Center for the Study of Religion.

In early April, Karen Maml, professor of food, agricultural and biological engineering at The Ohio State University, delivered “The Culture of Water Pollution Control in Rural China.” For centuries in China, human and animal manure were recycled to support agricultural production. As a result, China did not develop wastewater treatment infrastructure. The modern shift of viewing manure as a waste rather than a resource has resulted in extensive water pollution throughout the county. A model for environmental technology transfer was developed to extend technology on rural wastewater treatment. The model considers the role of appropriate technology, legal and policy issues and the appreciation of culture, while establishing working relationships with an agricultural university and an Academy of Agricultural Sciences to compare the capabilities to extend environmental technology to the countryside.

Also in April 2012, ICS hosted Zong-ni Cai, professor of pre-modern Chinese, comparative literature, and medieval studies at the University of Illinois at Urbana. Dr. Cai’s lecture, titled “Toward a Grammar of Classical Chinese Poetry: Probing the Secret of Poetic Vision,” examined the macro study part of his book project Chinese Poetry as Art. If traditional Chinese impressionistic criticism reveals an intuitive grasp of the ineluctable aesthetic qualities of a given work, the oeuvre of a poet, or even a given genre or subgenre, Chinese Poetry as Art aims to go one step further: to provide an analytical explanation for these aesthetic qualities. It consistently applies modern linguistics to analyze both the synchronic and diachronic interconnectedness of four essential aspects of Chinese poetic art—rhythm, syntax, structure and vision—in an effort to illuminate the inner dynamics of Chinese poetic evolution.

In late April, ICS was pleased to present a lecture by Weijing Lu, associate professor of history at University of California at San Diego, on “Memorializing Marital Intimacy: Writings of Sun Xingyan (1753-1818).” Her talk presented poetry of marital love in arranged marriage in pre-modern China, along with the records produced by Sun Xingyan’s friends and relatives, to consider questions about courtship and marital intimacy at a time when the modern notion of “love” was absent: how did the newly-wed interact, feel, and speak about their relationships? How were the modes of their expression of affection shaped by cultural, gender and aesthetic norms? What could the couple’s marriage—and the presentations of it—suggest about the thinking and practice in marital relations at the time?

In early May, Wei Shang, Du Family Professor of Chinese Culture at Columbia University, presented, “The Grand Prospect Garden and Its Visual Representations, 1791-1919.” Like many dramas and novels of the early modern era (1550-1919), The Story of the Stone was accompanied by wood-block illustrations when it first appeared in print in 1791. Almost immediately, though, Stone proved to be much more than an illustrated novel. During the centuries that followed, paintings, murals, peep shows and decorative artifacts that feature the characters and scenes from Stone became part of the lived environment of Chinese men and women. Instead of being a mere textual phenomenon, Stone took on a new life through visual renditions at different levels of remove from the text. Shang’s lecture explored the visual dimension of what might be called the “Stone phenomenon,” with special attention to the pictorial representations of the Grand Prospect Garden, the main setting of Stone, in a variety of visual genres and forms facilitated by the social, cultural and technological changes in the nineteenth-century.

Also in May 2012, ICS hosted Yu Huang from the anthropology department at University of Washington (Seattle). Dr. Huang presented, “Entangled Guanxi: Tracing State-Society Relations through Food Safety Control in China.” Her presentation analyzed two case studies in state’s food safety regulation: a fish veterinary training program and a drug residue detection trip. She explored how food safety works both as a discourse and practice that grants the Chinese state a new mission of governance but the ambivalence of the issue at the same time delegitimizes the state’s power to rule. The fish veterinary program reflected a neoliberal process of creating a lean state, when the state employed only official veterinaries to control epidemic diseases and leave the certified veterinaries to learn self-help and make their living from the market. The drug residue detection campaign, however, indicated the complex but fragile guanxi between the marketizing state and citizens. This helps understand rural development of China as a project of both empowerment and risk.
Focus on Teacher Training and K-12 Outreach

EASC offers “Teaching about Asia” seminar in Cleveland

In Winter 2012, EASC held its annual National Consortium for Teaching about Asia seminar in the Northeast Ohio city of Cleveland, on the campus of Case Western Reserve University. From January to April, participants met weekly to learn from lead instructor, Dr. Garrett Washington, current recipient of the prestigious Mellon Postdoctoral Fellowship and a visiting professor of history at Oberlin College.

With generous support from the Freeman Foundation, EASC’s seminars provide 6th-12th grade teachers with the knowledge, resources, and expert guidance to incorporate or enhance curriculum about East Asia in their classrooms. Since 2004, NCTA-Ohio seminars have given over 240 teachers a strong background in Chinese, Japanese and Korean history and culture, which they have passed on to middle and high school students around the state.

For further information, see http://ncta.osu.edu.

Reflections on the Seminar

by Regina M. Feldman, teacher, Montessori High School at University Circle, Cleveland

Impact on My Understanding of East Asia

Through this course, I have gained new insight into the specific histories of Japan, China and Korea. Since I have been teaching an entire semester on Asian twentieth-century history while taking this class, I have already been able to incorporate pre-twentieth-century Korean history into my teaching to establish background understanding of the region, as well as the lesson on Japanese annexation of Korea. Lectures on Japan and China have supplemented my prior knowledge and have been incorporated into my teaching in informal ways. I also have been able to incorporate resources we were given; again, they typically flowed into my teaching in informal ways. For example, I have talked to my students about the article on music under Mao when discussing the first years of Socialist reforms, the Great Leap Forward, and the Cultural Revolution, as well as about manga.

I also appreciated the combination of overview lectures and textbook readings with in-depth, often ethnographic approaches through more specific readings, and I especially enjoyed the guest speakers.

Most enlightening, I might even say revolutionizing, to my thinking about East Asia was the ongoing discussion of East Asia as a region in both the textbook and in lectures. Individual histories are enlivened when we think about them as the documentation of peoples’ interactions across national boundaries. People migrate, borrow cultural elements, assimilate, reject, invade, etc. and thereby shape their own identities in ways far more complex than “Korean,” “Chinese” or “Japanese” identity labels can convey.

As an anthropologist, I very much appreciated the many resources that approach histories from lived and personal perspectives. These accounts are especially useful as resources for working with adolescents, since they still are evolving their ability to empathize with ‘the other,’ close and far, and personal identification with a historically remote or culturally very different character allows them to re-experience past lives lived and hence connect emotionally to people around the world. I am planning to use excerpts of these books throughout my teaching on Asia.

Lastly, the course has reinforced a structural consideration for teaching twentieth-century Asia I had been contemplating. I find the combination of overview lessons (in Montessori, we call them key lessons, i.e. content and skill lessons that must be taught didactically as a pre-condition for interest-based and choice exploration by students) with readings that take us right into the experience of that history very effective. I am planning to restructure all lessons on Asia after the seminar model we have worked with in the course. Thank you for that gift in pedagogy!

Implementation in the Future

Teaching Asia makes up about 100 hours of my two-year rotation of teaching twentieth-century world history to juniors and seniors, so this course has great relevance for me and will have a major impact on my teaching in the future. In addition, the course has brought me in touch with potential speakers for my class. Our schedule allows for three hour in-depth work in every discipline, a perfect occasion to bring in an expert, or go out to hear a lecture on the CWRU campus. All of this is very exciting and stimulating!
IJS assists with Mt. Vernon City Schools’ Japanese art and poetry contests

The small town of Mt. Vernon, located approximately 50 miles north of Columbus, celebrated the Centennial Celebration of the Gift of Trees from Japan, by making it the theme of the Mt. Vernon Japanese Art Contest this year. Students in grades K-12 submitted either haiku or tanka poetry or a Japanese-influenced art piece centered around the theme of cherry blossoms. Of the over 250 submissions, three students were chosen as winners per category and awarded prizes made possible by contributions from OSU’s Institute for Japanese Studies. Winners were also invited to a presentation by the Institute for Japanese Studies at Mount Vernon High School.

For her work in the Mount Vernon Art Contest over the years, on May 1, 2012, Janet Stucky Smith, assistant director of the Institute for Japanese Studies, received a Distinguished Service Award from the Mount Vernon Education Association, in recognition of a sustaining interest in and contribution to public education.

State-wide Japanese Language Speech Contest held

On March 3, 2012, a state-wide Japanese language speech contest for high school and college students took place, recognizing the growth and contributions to the learning of the Japanese language and understanding the Japanese culture. Among the 50 applications received, 10 students were selected to participate in each division. An audience of diverse ages and backgrounds arrived at the event and watched as the students presented their speeches to the four Japanese judges—Hiroshi Fukuda, Noriko Reider, Noriko Mills, and Consulate General Midori Takeuchi of Detroit. The contestants were judged on pronunciation and intonation (P&I), content, accuracy, and understanding of culture. In the end, four winners were chosen from each category (high school and college) and were given prizes. All contestants received a parting gift bag filled with Japanese cultural objects.
Focus on the Library Collection

Manga collection receives donation and establishes new circulation policy

During Winter Quarter the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library and Museum received a large donation of manga magazines from the Kyoto International Manga Museum. This generous gift, which is still being processed so is not available for use yet, prompted a re-thinking of how manga collections are managed. A new “Manga Collection Development Policy” was issued, outlining a new approach. Separately published manga and books about manga will be moved into the circulating collections to meet the needs of researchers, while the manga collection within the Billy Ireland Cartoon Library & Museum will focus on collecting manga magazines and newspapers, original cartoon art by Japanese cartoonists and translated manga. For further details, read the policy which is published on the web at: http://library.osu.edu/blogs/manga/manga-collection-development-policy/.

Japanese company histories available for research

The Ohio State University Libraries has developed an extensive collection of Japanese company histories and hosts a collaborative database project, The Japanese Company Histories (Shashii) Wiki: http://library.osu.edu/wikis/shashidb/index.php/.

This past year, with the help of two students—graduate assistant, Lee Heward (DEALL), and undergraduate student assistant, Koyo Nagaya—the Libraries has added over 100 new shashi, continuing work that has been ongoing since the mid-1980s when a collection was purchased from a Tokyo bookstore on the advice of Professor Bradley M. Richardson (now Emeritus). Since these books are privately published, the only way to obtain them is by writing letters to request copies. Although time-consuming, this work is essential in developing a distinctive collection that supports researchers in a wide range of fields.

Japanese newspaper databases now available on campus

Global publishing is trending ever more rapidly from print to digital. The Japanese collections are working hard to keep up with this trend, so that The Ohio State University researchers benefit from better access to research resources. Two major Japanese newspapers became available for use by campus researchers recently:

- Yomidasu Rekishikan, the database of Yomiuri Shinbun, covering 1874 to the present
- Kikuzo II Visual for Libraries, the database of Asahi Shinbun, covering 1945 to the present

These resources are in addition to existing digital subscriptions:
- Japan Knowledge, a suite of dictionaries, encyclopedias, bibliographies and other sources
- Nichigai Web Service (bibliographies and reference works)
- Zasshi kiji sakui shosei database (Koseisha), “the complete database for Japanese magazines and periodicals from the Meiji era to the present”

All are available through the library catalog or website, but only by faculty, staff and students of The Ohio State University, due to licensing restrictions.
Faculty News


Marjorie K.H. Chan (associate professor, East Asian languages and literatures) gave several presentations this academic year. She gave an invited presentation, “Exploring Early Cantonese Grammar: Some Interrogatives and Interrogative Constructions in the Huajian Ji,” in Hong Kong at the Workshop on Early Cantonese Grammar (December 2011), organized by the Center for Chinese Linguistics, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She was one of the keynote speakers at the The 16th International Conference on Yue Dialects (December 2011), co-organized by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the PolyU-PKU Research Centre on Chinese Linguistics. Her presentation at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University was “Rhytm, Timing and Tempo: Some Humour Strategies in Cantonese Operas and Early Cantopop Songs.” She was also invited to the 2012 Annual Meeting of the Linguistic Society of America (January 2012, Portland, Oregon), to be on the panel, “Tech Tools: Increasing Technology Training in the Curriculum of Graduate Students in Linguistics,” organized by Professor Laurel Smith Svan (University of Texas at Arlington) and sponsored by the LSA Technology Advisory Committee (TAC). Her presentation was on “Working with Text Corpora: Character Encodings and Digital Standards.” In addition, together with several graduate students, she organized the Workshop on Cantonese Linguistics (WICL), held on March 16-17, 2012 at Ohio State.

Japanese language lecturers and graduate students at the American Association of Teachers of Japanese conference in Toronto, Canada.

Karen Curtin (lecturer, East Asian languages and literatures) attended the annual Ohio Association of Teachers of Japanese (OATJ) conference in September 2011 and was elected to office as the Secretary. At the end of Fall Quarter 2011, she conducted an informational workshop on attending the Inter-University Center for Japanese Language Studies (IUC) in Yokohama, Japan.

Curtin also conducted research in Winter 2012, under the supervision of Dr. Mari Noda, on the utilization of “Japanese: The Spoken Language” media materials by first- and third-year students. She presented on this research in Japanese at the annual American Association of Teachers of Japanese (AATJ) conference on March 15 in Toronto, Canada. Several graduate students also presented at the conference, including Shinsuke Tsuchiya, Saori Nozaki, Ben Trevor, and Yongfei Yi.

Guoqing Li (professor, University libraries) was invited to do an onCampus “Ask the Expert” column on Chinese New Year earlier this year. After it was published on January 18, he received a letter of commendation from OSU President Gordon Gee. He also published Volume 3 (10 titles) of Zhongguo Yan Jiu Wai Wen Jiu Ji Hui Kan: Zhongguo Ji Lu – Chinese Studies in the West: The Chinese Record (Guilin: Guangxi Normal University Press, 2012) in March.

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LR: Tee-Him Tsui (current doctoral student, linguistics), Marjorie Chan (DEALL faculty; ICS director), Roxana Fung (DEALL alumna, PhD 2000; now a professor at Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Jianguo Shi (DEALL alumna, PhD 1994; now a professor at University of Macau).
In Spring 2012, Karen Mancl (professor, food, agricultural, and environmental sciences) was selected to win the 2012 Bill Williams Diversity Award, nominated by CFAES Professor Lingying Zhao. Established to recognize outstanding efforts and accomplishments of individuals, groups or teams who have contributed to diversity and inclusion efforts within the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, the award recognizes Dr. Mancl’s numerous efforts to assist Chinese faculty and students in the College as well as to bring East Asian-related research, teaching and outreach to the College. A graduate of the EASC-administered East Asian Studies MA program, Dr. Mancl completed her thesis in 2010 on “Transfer of Environmental Technology to Rural China.”

Mineharu Nakayama (professor, East Asian languages and literatures) was appointed visiting professor by the National Institute for Japanese Language Linguistics in Japan in April 2012. As a visiting professor, she serves as the editor of the Handbook of Japanese Psycholinguistics in the series of the Handbooks of Language and Linguistics (series editors: M. Shibatan and T. Kagayama; De Gruyter Mouton). In December, Nakayama will complete his seventh and final year as the editor-in-chief of the Journal of Japanese Linguistics with the support of EASC/IS. Since the last EASC newsletter, he has published three co-authored articles (“L2 Acquisition of Overt WH-movement Revisited,” Ars Linguistica 18; “Notes on Picture Noun Reflexives: Awareness and Structural/Functional Constraints,” Ars Linguistica 18; “Why is /s/ more difficult than WH-movement?,” Language and Culture 15) and presented eight authored and co-authored papers at various conferences (e.g., “L2 Knowledge at the Syntax-Pragmatics Interface: Interpretations of Reflexives by Japanese, Korean, and Chinese ESL Learners;” “Advanced Skills through Independent Research Activities in a Study Abroad Context”; “The L3 Acquisition of Zibun by Chinese Learners of Japanese”; “L2 Acquisition of Continuous Events by Japanese EFL Learners”). One of the papers he presented at a conference in Japan (“L2 Pronominal Interpretations Revisited”) was co-authored with his ABD advisee, Carlos Pimentel, who coordinates the Japanese Language Program at the University of Maryland. Seth Goss, another advisee of Nakayama’s, won a Japan Foundation dissertation fellowship to conduct research at Nagoya University from September 2012.


Park-Miller also delivered the following lectures and performances: the plenary talk at the Tenth Mid-South American Workshop for Teachers of Korean as part of the National Association for Korean Schools, Midwest/South Chapter’s workshop in Columbus, Ohio in March 2012; a “Read Aloud,” p’ansori performance and commentary at The Ohio State University’s Main Library in May 2012; a p’ansori performance and commentary at UC San Diego as part of the Korean Music Series of the Department of Music in May 2012; “P’ansori Transnationally” at the Korean Cultural Center of Los Angeles in April 2012; “Flog the Husband to Feed the Children, the Hóngbo Manura’s Son,” a transnational interpretive p’ansori adapted from P’ansori Song of Hóngbo, as part of North Carolina State University’s Price Music Center Lecture Series in February 2012; and “Singing the Late Chosón Poetics of P’ansori” at UC Irvine as part of the Korean Popular Culture Colloquium Series in October 2011.

Faculty Updates CONTINUED


Park-Miller was also instrumental in the planning and hosting of Institute for Korean Studies performers and lecturers, including the Pukori Korean drumming performance; the photo exhibition, “A Story of Volunteerism: Americans in Korea, Koreans in the World”; the Korean tightrope performance; and the poetry reading and lecture by Seo Dong-Wook.

Dr. Chan-Park-Miller performs.

Christopher Reed [associate professor, history] published a chapter called “Shanghai, From Chinese Hub Port to Global Treaty Port (1730-1865)” in the world-history textbook Places of Encounter: Time, Place, and Connectivity in World History, edited by Aran & Elaine Mackinnon (Boulder: Westview Press, 2012). With help from numerous OSU graduate students in DEALL, History, and Art History, he completed proofreading the Chinese translation of his book Gutenberg in Shanghai: Chinese Print Capitalism, 1876-1937 (2004); the Chinese edition is scheduled for publication in 2012 through Beijing’s Commercial Press (Shangwu yinhuguan). The Commercial Press is China’s oldest, still-operating publishing house (est. 1897) and is discussed in Reed’s book. In Spring 2012, Kenyon College’s History Department invited him to serve as an external examiner for a senior honors thesis on treaty-port Shanghai and its multiple modernities. He continues to serve on the editorial boards of Twentieth-Century China, ICAS Proceedings (IAS, Leiden University, The Netherlands), and Book History. He has recently reviewed proposals and manuscripts for Westview Press, Amsterdam University Press (The Netherlands), Technology and Culture, and the Journal of the Institute of Modern History at Academia Sinica (Taiwan). He served as discussant and chair for conference panels at the New York Council of Asian Studies (University at Buffalo) conference and for a conference on North Korea run by OSU’s new Institute for Korean Studies held at OSU’s Mershon Center as well as for three panels at the World History Association meeting at Capital Normal University in Beijing.

Patricia Sieber (associate professor, East Asian languages and literatures) pursued a number of projects in conjunction with her research on late imperial Chinese literature. She presented on the intersection between examination of culture and vernacular literature at the AAS on the panel “The Many Lives Of a New Canon: Performance Genres, Print Culture, and Social Reproduction in Qing China” that she had organized. At OSU, she co-organized the ICS forum on “The Fashioning of New Cultural Spaces: Between Print, Performance, and Visuality in Late Imperial and Republican China,” an outgrowth of a graduate seminar on the late imperial discourse on “books of genius” she taught in Winter 2012. In addition, she gave invited talks at the University of California, Berkeley and at the University of California, Davis on the global flow of Chinese vernacular ballads and letters. In that vein, she also organized two different panels on Sino-European contacts for the upcoming European Association for Chinese Studies (EACS) and British Association for Chinese Studies (BACS) conferences respectively. She was also a participant in the creative residency of the Royal Shakespeare Company at the University of Michigan designed to develop RSC’s 2012-13 production of the Orphan of Zhao.

Zhiguo Xie’s (assistant professor, East Asian languages and literatures) paper, “The Modal Uses of de and Temporal Shifting in Mandarin Chinese,” was accepted for publication in Journal of East Asian Linguistics. In addition, he delivered a talk, “Weak Generic Sentences: Partitioning and Comparison,” at the 38th annual meeting of the Berkeley Linguistics Society held at the UC Berkeley in February 2012.
Student News

Student conducts dissertation research and presents in Taiwan

“I have been extremely fortunate to have traveled to Taiwan for two dissertation research trips and two conferences since this past fall. In October, I was an invited speaker at a conference, “Xinshijie, Chen Chengbo” (translated: “New Horizons, Chen Chengbo Conference”). It was focused on the Taiwanese oil painter, Chen Chengbo, who is the topic of my dissertation, and was held in the hometown of the artist, Chiayi, Taiwan. The conference was held in conjunction with an exhibit at the Chiayi Municipal Cultural Center displaying documents from Chen Chengbo’s life. It was a wonderful experience and I had more opportunity to spend time with Chen Chengbo’s family, spending time in their home, looking over their father’s/grandfather’s paintings with them, and hearing more about their personal experiences.

In late November I returned to Taiwan to attend a conference regarding the conservation of Chen’s paintings, and attend the first of two large-scale exhibits on Chen Chengbo’s paintings and documents. This first exhibit was in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, at the Kaohsiung Museum of Fine Arts.

In between my dissertation-related travels to Taiwan, I had a paper accepted to the Edward F. Hayes Graduate Research Forum where I presented on the topic of Chen Chengbo and his paintings, and was awarded second place in the Arts Division. I then returned to Taipei, Taiwan in February and March, for the second exhibit of Chen’s works at the Taipei Fine Arts Museum, “Xingguo jiangnan-Chen Chengbo yishu tansuo licheng” (translated: “Journey Through Jiangnan: A Pivotal Moment in Chen Chengbo’s Artistic Quest”). An article that I wrote (“Identity, Hybridity, and Modernity: The Colonial Paintings of Chen Cheng-po”) is in the catalogue published in conjunction with the show. I also had the opportunity to write an article (“Transnational Cultures, Hybrid Identities”) for another exhibition catalogue on Chen Chengbo that opened this February at the Taiwan Shoka Association in Taipei. This exhibit featured a conference on May 5 that invited me back as a guest speaker to present on my dissertation research on Chen Chengbo. It was another excellent time to receive feedback as well as spend more time with the Chen family as they commented on the exhibit and conference proceedings.”

Christina Wei-Szu Burke Mathison, PhD Candidate, history of art

ICS holds Second Annual Chinese New Year banquet

The Institute for Chinese Studies ushered in the Year of the Dragon with its Second Annual Chinese New Year Banquet. The celebration took place in February 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 traditional and modern pieces played on the erhu by Tsun-Hui Hung. Yan Yongyu also sang My family has Countless Uncles, a revolutionary song.

RIGHT: Guests starting to gather for the Chinese New Year Banquet.
Focus on Student Organizations

EASC supports student organizations at Taste of OSU

The Office of International Affairs, more than 30 Ohio State student organizations (including representatives from East Asian student groups), and the University Residences & Dining Services chefs came together to prepare an evening of international food, exhibits and cultural performances for the campus community at the 2012 Taste of OSU on January 27. The evening was highlighted by the international foods, cultural exhibits and performances presented by the student organizations. The Taiwanese Student Association had the second most food ticket sales. The Hong Kong Student Association displayed a cultural exhibit. Cultural performances were delivered by the Chinese Circle of Communication, Taiwanese Student Association, Indonesian Student Association, Indian Students Association, Pilipino Student Association and many more. EASC’s Jeff Chan was appointed food judge.

7th Annual Japanese Festival organized by Japanese Student Organization

Over 600 people gathered at the Performance Hall of the Ohio Union on Sunday, April 29 to celebrate the 7th Annual Japanese Festival sponsored by the Japanese Student Organization. Performances included demonstrations of koto by Sakura Kato, aikido by the Akido Yoshokai of The Ohio State University and musical performances by Sarah Marie Garvin, Katie and the Bio-luminescent Monkeys and the High-Kicks. The video “I love you Japan - for 3/11 from USA” was presented and the schools that participated in the Japan Cherry Tree project (see page 7) were showcased. All projects from the five schools were on display for the duration of the festival for attendees to see the hard work of the 260 students who participated. Co-sponsors of the event included the Institute for Japanese Studies, Yoshi’s Japanese Restaurant, Tensuke Market, Haiku Poetic Food & Art and Yamato Transport USA.

RIGHT TOP: MEMBERS OF THE JAPANESE STUDENT ORGANIZATION GATHER AT THE T-SHIRT BIRTHplace FOR A MOMENT IN BETWEEN PERFORMANCES.
RIGHT BOTTOM: DR. MAKI NOSA AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE AKIDO YOSHOKAI OF THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY GIVE A BRIEF INTRODUCTION AND THEN INVOLVE AUDIENCE MEMBERS FOR MORE DEMONSTRATIONS.

Student club, Osysaberi-kai, gives students opportunity to converse in Japanese

In Autumn 2011, the Japanese Conversation Club, “Osysaberi-kai,” was re-started on campus, with the support of Japanese language lecturer Karen Cortin and several graduate students. Osysaberi-kai meets every Friday at OSU and is designed for those who have an interest in the Japanese language and culture to improve their skills. The group meets following a theme each week, such as Japanese holidays, differences in Japanese and American culture, as well as some undergraduate student-led conversations. In Spring Quarter 2012, the group, led by President Kanako Yoo, became an official student organization at OSU.

RIGHT: AN OYSABERIKAI MEETING AT WHICH MEMBERS CELEBRATED SETSUBUN, A JAPANESE HOLIDAY FOR WHICH DRIED BEANS ARE THROWN AT PEOPLE DRESSED AS ONI (DEMONS).
Student News

Student Updates

Man He (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) received the Office of International Affairs grant for her archival and field work in Summer 2012. This project examines the text and staging context of a set of signature “elopement” modern plays within the framework of “theatre space” between 1902 and 1949, an area when Chinese modern theatre was deeply politicized while modern Chinese history itself was highly dramatized. Recognizing how Chinese modern theatre “imagined” national citizens and “enframed” community norms, modes of thinking, and ways of constructing meaning, He’s dissertation examines textual, meta-textual and theatrical aspects of these plays when they were staged in Shanghai (1900s-1940s), Guangzhou (1929-1932), Tianjin (1930s), and the rural area of Ding County (1926-1937). By prioritizing “theatre space” above other genre defining factors, this project reveals how the practice of modern theatre penetrated all forms of societal strata and expanded a shared identity from cultural and political elites to the masses, from the urban to the rural, and from on-stage theatricality to everyday reality. He also examines how different cultural and social forces negotiated their contradictions by claiming “co-authorship” over certain modern theatre productions. Finally, she suggests the expansive influence of modern theatre in China echoes the process of national identity formation in Japan, Ireland, Spain, Greece, and other modern-state states in the late 19th and early 20th century. He also presented a paper, “From the Theatrical Novel to “Amateur Drama”: Creating Performance Spaces in Tian Han’s The Night the Tiger was Caught (1922-1924),” in the 2012 ICS Graduate Forum, “The Fashioning of New Cultural Spaces: Between Performance, Print, and Visuality in Late Imperial and Republican China.”

Levi Gibbs (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) presented a guest lecture in Chinese on “The Individual and Tradition” to a group of 200 students in a course on “Traditional Chinese Music” at the Xi’an Conservatory of Music in May 2012.

John Knight (graduate student, history) received the following awards in 2012—the Louise Loh Memorial Scholarship from OSU’s East Asian Studies Center, the Marsden Center Student Grant from OSU’s Marsden Center for International Security Studies, and the Tien-Yi Li Prize.

Mengju Li (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) has been awarded the 2012-2013 AAS-CIAC Small Grant (China and Inner Asia) from the Association for Asian Studies, and the 2012 Tien-yi Li Award by the Chinese faculty of the Department of East Asian Languages and Literatures, an award given annually to an outstanding graduate student in Chinese. She also participated and presented part of her ongoing dissertation project, “Thinking Outside the Examination Box: Redefinitions of Genius in early to Mid-Qing Scholar-Beauty Fiction (1644-1795),” at the ICS Forum.

Congratulations to EASC scholarship winners!

Summer 2012 Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) Fellowships:

Graduate students:
Austin Dean, Chinese, East Asian languages and literatures
Kelly Schultz, Tibetan, comparative studies
Paul Mann, Chinese, EALL Chinese flagship program
Joseph Helbing, EALL Chinese flagship program
Deidrynn Duncan, East Asian studies
Henry Abbott, EALL Chinese flagship program
Paul Case, EALL Chinese flagship program

Undergraduate students:
Anna Lin, Japanese, computer science and engineering

2012-2013 Intensive Chinese Language Scholarships:

Undergraduate students:
William Dean, Chinese and history
Saina Nemoto, international studies
Lydia Simon, Chinese

2012-2013 Louise Zung-nyi Loh Memorial Scholarships:

Graduate students:
John Knight, history
Kimberly McKee, women’s studies
Tsz-Him Tsui, linguistics
Ariana Maki (graduate student, history of art) served as conference panel chair and organizer for “Festivals and Folklore: Legacy, Locality, and Identity in Eastern Bhutan” at the Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference in Toronto, Ontario in March 2012. She also delivered a paper, “The Cornerstone of a Legacy: Pema Lingpa and the Tamzhing Phala Choegopa.”

Kimberly McKee (graduate student, women’s, gender and sexuality studies) recently received the 2012 Global Society of Korea and American Dissertation Scholarship from the Research Center for the Korean Community at Queens College of CUNY. In addition, this year she received the Louise Loh Memorial Scholarship from the East Asian Studies Center, the Elizabeth D. Gee Grant Award from the Department of Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and placed first in Humanities at the Council of Graduate Students’ Edward F. Hayes Graduate Forum. She also presented two papers between March and April 2012: “Asserting Koreaness: Performing Identity Online” [Alliance for the Study of Adoption and Culture, Claremont, California, March 2012]; and “Negotiating the ‘Real’: Locating the Korean Adoptee in Heteronormative Kinship” [Association for the Asian American Studies Conference, Washington DC, April 2012].

Craig Nelson (graduate student, history) received an IIE Fulbright grant to travel to Japan. He will be based in Tokyo for 12 months starting in September 2012. His research is on the history of nuclear power in Japan, focusing on how and why the Japanese came to accept nuclear power in spite of their experience with the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, as well as fallout from nuclear weapons.

Stefanie Thomas (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) was awarded the Blakemore-Freeman Fellowship to attend the Inter-University Center in Yokohama, Japan in 2012-13.

Seth Wiener (graduate student, East Asian languages and literatures) presented papers at the 18th Workshop on East Asian Linguistics at UC Santa Barbara, the Workshop on Innovations in Cantonese Linguistics at Ohio State, and the 6th International Conference on Speech Prosody in Shanghai, China. He was also awarded the Ray Travel Award for Scholarship by the Council of Graduate Students at The Ohio State University.

Yan Xu (graduate student, history) won the Bradley Fellowship for Military History to support her dissertation writing during the 2012-13 academic year. She is the first Chinese history student to win the award. Xu also presented a chapter of her dissertation, “War Heroes: The Making of Soldiers’ Masculinities in Modern China, 1925-1945,” at the 2012 Chinese Military History Society Conference, held at George Washington University in Washington, D.C. in May 2012.

Yanfei Zhu (graduate student, history of art) was selected to participate in the summer seminar “Studies of Asian Arts, Religion, and History,” June 24 to July 3 in Shanghai, China, hosted by the National Institute for Advanced Humanistic Studies, Fudan University, and sponsored by the Department of East Asian Studies, Princeton University, and the Institute for the Advanced Study of Asia, Tokyo University. He also received a National Museum of Korea Fellowship to attend the museum’s summer program on Korean art history from July 9 to 21 in Seoul, Korea.

New Course Announcement:

History 3436: Modern Korean History

Autumn 2012
Visiting Professor Deborah Solomon

Tuesdays and Thursdays
12:45 - 2:05 p.m.

Sponsored in part by the East Asian Studies Center, History 3436: “Modern Korean History,” will study the formation and rise of modern Korea, covering the period from late 1800s to the present. Students will examine the pressures, both internal and external, that caused Korea’s long-lived and stable Choson dynasty to collapse, and explore how subsequent colonization and war ultimately divided the Korean peninsula into the two very different nation-states we see today. In addition to studying historical events and trends, students will also analyze the philosophical principles and underpinning systems of thought that have shaped life on the Korean peninsula, such as Confucianism, Buddhism and Communism.
Join us this fall for

Castles in the Sky: Miyazaki, Takahata and the Masters of Studio Ghibli

The Wexner Center for the Arts and the East Asian Studies Center are thrilled to present a comprehensive retrospective in Autumn 2012 of Studio Ghibli’s films, including new 35mm prints of several films that have never been released in North America. Don’t miss this rare opportunity to see Hayao Miyazaki’s beloved favorites My Neighbor Totoro, Princess Mononoke, Nausicaä of the Valley of the Wind, Kiki’s Delivery Service, Castle in the Sky and Porco Rosso, as well as seldom-seen films by Isao Takahata, such as Pom Poko, Only Yesterday and My Neighbors the Yamadas. Also included in this comprehensive program are the first Ghibli feature to be made by someone other than Miyazaki or Takahata, Tomomi Mochizuki’s Ocean Waves, Miyazaki protégé Yoshiyuki Kondo’s sole feature Whisper of the Heart and Hiroyuki Morita’s sequel to the Kondo film, The Cat Returns.

Studio Ghibli, founded in Tokyo in 1985 by animation directors Hayao Miyazaki and Isao Takahata, is one of the most successful and well-respected animation studios in the world. Cultivating a creative force of talented directors, animators and storytellers under the revered brilliance of Miyazaki and Takahata, Studio Ghibli’s films have been praised for their originality, dazzling animation and epic storytelling. The films have become a beloved part of Japanese popular culture, and have garnered worldwide acclaim from audiences and critics alike. Hayao Miyazaki’s Spirited Away won the Academy Award for Best Animated Feature in 2002, and in 2005 Miyazaki was named one of “the most influential people” by Time Magazine.

Half of the films will be presented in the original Japanese language versions with English subtitles, and half will be dubbed in English for a more family-friendly experience.

Full listings will be available at www.wexarts.org in Summer 2012.