

---

---

## EASC Newsletter: October 2004

---

---

### FROM THE DIRECTOR...

Dear Colleagues,

The East Asian Studies Center's new academic year has begun with a flurry of activity – most notably our hosting of the third annual “Asia in the Curriculum” symposium, an event that brings together K-12 and post-secondary educators who share the Freeman Foundation's desire to increase the exposure that American students of all ages get to the cultures of countries such as China, Japan and Korea. The staff, led by Associate Director Jacques Fuqua, did a truly extraordinary job in pulling together and then pulling off with flair this complicated gathering held at the IUPUI Conference Center. Working together with Bloomington faculty and students (who did everything from lead panels to put on an “almost authentic” Kabuki play), the staff (who did everything from plan and chair sessions to, in Anne Prescott's case, perform a memorable Koto duet with her star pupil at the dinner that closed the symposium), made sure that all of the more than 165 educators who attended went away feeling that they had been part of something important.

Many things made the event special, but here I will just mention three of them. One was that nearly all of the members of the Freeman Foundation came to Indiana for the gathering, including Houghton, Doreen and Graeme Freeman. A highpoint for me was spending time talking with the three of them and coming away more convinced than ever that the Foundation is not just doing extraordinary things for Asian studies but is also run by truly extraordinary people who have a passion for education that is inspiring. Another highpoint was the involvement of Dr. Suellen Reed, Indiana's Superintendent of Public Instruction, who gave a plenary address that set an excellent tone for the discussions to come. And a third was the by turns provocative and amusing talk on accounts of Marco Polo's real and imaginary travels given by featured speaker Dr.

Frances Wood, who came across the Atlantic from London's British Library to join us.

Even though the symposium is the single largest event we will run this academic year, the months ahead promise to be very busy ones. In addition to our regular activities, such as the East Asian Film Series, the colloquium series and a host of outreach activities, we will be gearing up for the next Title VI application round (yes, it is that time again, with the proposals due in the fall of 2005). We will be playing a central role in workshops and conferences run under the rubric of a new umbrella organization, the "Committee on Asian Security," which has been created to foster joint undertaking by IU's East Asianists, Central Asianists, and South Asianists. And in the spring, to build on and expand activities begun under the undergraduate initiative, we will host "Globalizing East Asian Studies," a one-day workshop on teaching strategies with participation by local faculty and three invited outside speakers, one from Columbia, Adam McKeown (author of *Chinese Migrant Networks and Cultural Change: Peru, Chicago, Hawaii, 1900-1936*, a fascinating and ambitious 2001 publication), and two from Stanford, Kären Wigen and Martin Lewis (co-authors of *The Myth of Continents*, a groundbreaking work that came out in 1997).

It promises to continue to be an exciting year, and I look forward to working with as many of you as possible on upcoming ventures and to seeing you at talks given in the East Asian Colloquium series. Not surprisingly, this series will largely be given over to presentations by faculty new to I. U. – or at least new to the Center, as in the case of photographer James Nakagawa, whose October 1 illustrated talk at the School of Fine Arts Gallery opened the year's series.

Best wishes,

Jeffrey Wasserstrom

---

## EASC EVENTS

### **EASC Helps Establish a Committee on Asian Security**

In November, the East Asian Studies Center will host the Nuclear Proliferation in Asia Symposium, which will be the inaugural event for the Committee on Asian Security. This committee combines the efforts of the EASC, the Indian Studies Program and some members from the Department of Central Eurasian Studies to look at both traditional and more-generally focused issues of security in Asia, and specifically China, North Korea, India and Pakistan.

The symposium, which will be held on November 18th, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the Persimmon

Room at the I.U. Bloomington Indiana Memorial Union is open to students, faculty, staff, and members of the Bloomington and Indianapolis communities. Following opening remarks by Peter Scoblic, the Executive Editor of the *New Republic*, the first part of this half-day event will look at the historical antecedents of the nuclear situation in India, Pakistan, China, and North Korea with a panel moderated by Patrick O'Meara and panelists Mike Robinson, Sumit Ganguly, and Robert Ross. The second panel of the day will look at the contemporary nuclear situation in these countries with an eye toward the future. This panel will be moderated by Jeffrey Wasserstrom with panelists Jacques Fuqua, Dinshaw Mistry and Yu Bin. Rebecca MacKinnon, former Bureau Chief of CNN in Beijing and Tokyo will provide remarks as well.

The Committee hopes that this will be one of many symposia looking at traditional security issues as well as issues of self-determination and diaspora. Working papers from this and other Committee on Asian Security talks will be available in both on-line and hard copy formats.

### **Third Annual Symposium on Asia in the Curriculum Held in Indianapolis**

EASC sponsored the Third Annual Symposium on Asia in the Curriculum, a three-day event which was held at IUPUI, September 16-18, 2004. This seminar was open to all educators working in the field of East Asian studies and provided a forum through which participants could share their experiences and ideas on promoting Asian studies at all levels of education. One hundred and sixty-four participants from around the United States attended the symposium, including Mr. and Mrs. Freeman, founders of the Freeman Foundation.

The symposium combined various tracts and lectures with special events such as the showing of the Korean film, 'The Way Home,' a winner of several Korean film awards, a production of the I. U. Bloomington-student created kabuki play *Love Suicides at the Jordan River*, and a banquet dinner complete with a koto duet recital performed by the EASC's Anne Prescott and her student Miyako Fuqua.

Keynote speeches were given by Indiana Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Sue-Ellen Reed and special invited speaker Frances Wood who talked about 'The Mysterious East.' Perhaps most well-known for her book *Did Marco Polo go to China?*, Dr. Wood is the Head Librarian of the Chinese Section of the British Library and author of many other notable titles including *The Blue Guide to China*, *Oriental Gardens*, *No Dogs and not Many Chinese: Treaty Port Life 1843-1943*, and *The Silk Road*.

Participants also had the opportunity of attending three sessions of panel discussions: "Asia in the Curriculum: Beyond the Textbook," "Asia in the Classroom: Emerging Needs" and "Next Steps." In addition three further panels were offered featuring a new, more content-orientated "Arts in Asia Track," utilizing music and the visual arts. A final session called "Next Steps in the Symposium's Evolution," focused on future development of the symposium and included discussion on issues such as whether to institutionalize the symposium, possible future locations

and organizers for next year's event.

## ***Teaching about Asia Seminar Alumni Meet in Chicago***

Alumni of the *Teaching about Asia* seminar programs in south-central Indiana traveled to Chicago as a follow up to their seminar work. Known as enrichment events, these occur after the seminar has finished and offer teachers a way of staying energized and connected. Led by Mary Hayes (EASC) and Professor Scott Clark (Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, 2002 Terre Haute NCTA seminar leader), the group visited the Qianlong exhibit at the Field Museum, had a guided tour of Chinatown, toured two Japanese gardens, did an in-service at the Smart Museum, and met with the midwest director of the Japanese-American Citizens League. Mitsuwa Japanese Market and meals at Chinese and Japanese restaurants were also on the itinerary. In addition to these activities, teachers discussed strategies for incorporating East Asia in the classroom.

## ***2004 Teaching East Asian Literature in the High School Workshop a Major Success!***

Beginning on July 18, 21 high school teachers came to Bloomington to study the history and literature of China, Japan and Korea. Professors from Columbia University and Indiana University-Bloomington taught this summer's week-long workshop. The first two-days were about the literary traditions of Japan preceded with historical background. On Wednesday, two professors presented about literature, culture, and history of the Korean peninsula. The week ended with two days devoted to Chinese literature and history. Throughout the week, Cecilia Boyce of Hillsborough High School (Odessa, FL) and Judith DeWoskin of Community High School (Ann Arbor, MI) guided participants on how to creatively implement East Asian literature into the high school classroom.

In addition to the formal sessions, the 2004 Literature Workshop provided cultural presentations on *aikido*, *tai chi*, *samulnori* and East Asian fashion, as well as East Asian films and cuisine for participants to immerse themselves in East Asian culture for the week. With a final banquet on Friday, July 23, the Workshop wrapped up. Presenters, participants, and East Asian Studies Center staff members celebrated the conclusion of a wonderful week and look forward to 2005!

## ***Teaching East Asian Music in the Elementary Classroom Workshop Continues to Shine***

“Overwhelmingly perfect!!” That’s how one of the participants of the Teaching East Asian Music in the Elementary Classroom workshop summed up her experience. Twenty music teachers from Indiana, Tennessee, Colorado, Illinois, New Jersey, Ohio, North Carolina and Taiwan gathered at I.U. Bloomington June 13-16 to learn more about the musics of East Asia and how to incorporate them into their teaching. Sessions were led by Dr. Han Kuo-Huang (China), Dr. Anne Prescott

(Japan), Dr. Hilary Finchum-Sung (Korea), and Dr. Terese Volk. The workshop also featured demonstrations and hands-on experience with East Asian instruments and a special concert by Chinese pipa virtuoso Hong Shao. Dates for the 2005 workshop will be announced soon. For all the latest information, see our website at [www.indiana.edu/~easc](http://www.indiana.edu/~easc).

## **2004 Study Tour takes High School Teachers to China**

Seventeen teachers from the Midwest had the opportunity to travel to China this summer to learn more about that country and culture firsthand. The EASC study tours are a follow-up to the 30-hour NCTA Teaching about Asia seminars for teachers to improve their knowledge of East Asia. Both the seminars and the study tours are generously funded by the Freeman Foundation.

The teachers who came from Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky and Alabama prepared for the trip with extensive reading, orientations in Bloomington and Chicago, and curriculum planning. During their three weeks in China they visited Beijing, Xi'an, Nanjing, Shanghai, Suzhou and Hong Kong. The group saw many historical sites, visited two schools, climbed on the Great Wall, and journeyed to a rural village. They were also given free days in which to pursue individual research and curriculum development plans. Many are already actively implementing their newly-developed lesson plans.

EASC/EALC staff/faculty accompanying the group were Jeff Wasserstrom (Professor, Chinese history), Anne Prescott (EASC Outreach Supervisor) and Jeff Payne (EASC Outreach Assistant). Also lending their expertise were Jim Winship (Professor, Political Science, Augustana College, Illinois) and curriculum coordinator John Frank (US History, Center Grove High School, Indiana).

## **EASC Series Ready for the Fall**

The schedules of the popular East Asian Colloquium Series and Film Series have been set for the fall. All events take place on the I.U. Bloomington campus.

Here are the dates for the remaining colloquium lectures:

Oct. 29 (Fri) Noon, Oak Room IMU	Rick Harbaugh (School of Business, I.U.) "Why Are Chinese Characters so Hard?"
Nov. 12 (Fri) Noon, Ballantine 004	Robert Fish (Indiana State University) "Making Mixed-Blood Orphans in Postwar Japan"

Dec. 3 (Fri)  
Noon,  
Ballantine 004

Ethan Michelson (Sociology-EALC, I.U.), Heidi Ross (School of Education, I.U.) and Jeff Wasserstrom (History-EASC, I.U.) “Images of A Changing China: A Three-Part Presentation Illustrated with Photographs From Recent Trips Across the Pacific”

Below are the dates for the remaining films in the Fall semester:

*On the Occasion of Remembering the Turning Gate.* October, 23, 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Korea, 2002, Dir. Hong Sang-soo, 116 min. This is a film with a straightforward plot and one that is entirely dependent on its actors. The story is that of a failing film actor in Seoul who travels throughout Korea with two female companions. The travelers are forced to deal with issues of love, friendship, career, and morality. A great example of the amazing films being produced in Korea. In Korean with English subtitles.

*Love Letter.* November 6, 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Japan, 2002, Dir. Shunji Iwai, 116 min. A film with beautiful landscape used as a character. This film is the story of Hiroko, a widower, who is seeking to move beyond her lost love by writing a letter to him. As her feelings and memories spring forward during the writing of the letter, Hiroko begins to dream of an alternate universe where the letter reaches her dead lover. A sweet and endearing film that never strays too far into sentimentalism. In Japanese with English subtitles.

*The Way Home.* November 20, 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Korea, 2002, Dir. Jeong-Hyang Lee, 88 min. This is the story of Sang-woo, a seven-year-old boy from the city, and his elderly grandmother, a mute who has spent her entire life in a small rural village. When Sang-woo’s mother is forced to send him to live with his grandmother, Sang-woo is shocked at what he finds—a place without indoor plumbing or access to fast-food restaurants. Angry and confused, Sang-woo rejects his grandmother’s attempts to please him. But, as time passes, the old woman’s kindness begins to touch the young boy’s heart—awakening curiosity, understanding and finally, love. In Korean with English subtitles. Rated PG.

*The Mission.* December 4, 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Hong Kong, 1999, Dir. Johnny To, 84 min. A film celebrating Hong Kong’s cinematic past and promising a bright future. Mr. Lung, a mobster of great importance in Hong Kong is nearly killed. In response, the crime boss hires five men to make up an elite bodyguard force. However, as the men begin to see Mr. Lung for what he is and develop a fraternal bond, their role as enforcers are put to the test. This is not the typical Hong Kong crime thriller. It has a sleek, modern feel with a story that rises above its seeming melodramatic appearance. In Mandarin with

English subtitles.

## **EASC Bids Farewell and Welcomes New Staff**

With the start of the new academic year, EASC once again finds itself saying goodbye to long-time staff members. Mary Hayes, Outreach Coordinator, came to the Center in 2001 and helped build several of the Center's most successful endeavors, including the NCTA Japan study tours and the Teaching East Asian Literature in the High School Classroom workshops. She has returned to school full-time to pursue her Master's degree. After two years as an Outreach Assistant, Jeff Payne has left the Center in order to focus on his research in the Political Science Department.

There have been several other staff changes as well. Clarke Hudson, editor of the *Journal of Chinese Religions*, has taken on a new duty this year. He will work as the Grant Assistant for the EASC taking over from Sarah Pedersen, who is in Japan this year. Jeremy Mixell has been hired as the new Outreach Assistant. Andy Sobol has returned to the Center after a year in Japan. In addition, the Center welcomes Anne Sorensen as Conference Assistant, and Aaron Brummett and Jessica Abell have been hired as office assistants for the academic year.

---

## **WHAT TO READ...**

***The Silk Road: Two Thousand Years in the Heart of Asia*  
Frances Wood ( University of California Press, 2002)**

*The Silk Road* is a colorful tour through Central Asian history, archaeology and art history from pre-historic jade crafting up to the recent destruction of artifacts by the Taliban regime. The chapters are topically focused, and organized in chronological order, giving a sense of movement through various areas of concern through the course of Central Asian history. The topics include: jade and silk production; Xiongnu and Han trade; Central Asian fashions in the Tang court; the Dunhuang caves; Marco Polo; and multiple chapters about later European explorers. While each of the early chapters is located in a particular time-frame, Wood is not limited by them, referring to data from other periods as necessary. Each chapter mixes historical and geographical detail with poetry, travelers' impressions and lively anecdotes, making the book an entertaining introductory survey of the area now known as the Silk Road. The pages are populated with famous characters: from Xi Ling, the legendary creator of silk, to Yang Guei Fei and Xiang Fei, popular concubines in the imperial Chinese court; from Buddhist missionaries Fa Xian and Xuan Zang to Nestorians and Jesuits like William of Rubruck and Bento de Goes; from Alexander the Great to Marco Polo to Sven Hedin, Aurel Stein and Pelliot. Not only human characters, but also animal characters roam there too. Wood describes in detail the varieties of game and wildlife sought after by Han Officials, British trophy hunters and Moghals alike. Two explorers during

the Great Game, a period characterized by Russian and English competition for influence in Central Asia, are characterized through their relationship to animals: the affection Aurel Stein shows toward his dogs, serves as a humane counterpoint to the behavior of his contemporary, Sven Hedin, who carelessly abandons both animals and porters alike to die from cold and disease.

The text is peppered with sumptuous color prints of fine art from the many periods and cultures in the region's history, black and white photos by European explorers during the Great Game and the early 20th Century, and modern color scenic and ethnographic prints. These are strategically placed alongside the vignettes which populate Wood's narrative, bringing to life excerpts from the tales of travelers past. To assist the reader are two maps inside the front and back covers, one focusing on trade routes and major oases in the Taklamakan basin and its surrounds, down to Gandhara and Nepal, and the other showing the larger trade route stretching from Luoyang to Tyre and Antioch. Also included is an altitude chart which shows the elevation and distance between major stops on the trade route.

Curiously, although Wood packs some 1500 years of history into the first half of the book, she devotes almost the entire second half of the book to only the last two hundred years. In telling an adventure-story of the events and characters who found and made public the majority of archeological finds on which modern Silk Road scholarship is based, she does not hold back her judgement on these characters. The French Paul Pelliot's brilliance is tempered against his "frightening" severity; the Swedish Sven Hedin's extensive explorations are contrasted against his ruthless grave-robbing; and the American Langdon Warner's moralizing about saving cave frescoes from the desecrated state he finds them in is set against his premeditated purchase of fixatives and chemicals in Beijing for the very purpose. However, little criticism is applied to Aurel Stein, the Englishman to whom the Dunhuang cave 17 was first opened, and who is portrayed as a congenial, sociable lover of good company and animals as are later English travelers like Peter Fleming and Ella Maillart.

This should all show that Wood's book serves as a delightful introduction for the novice. As a critical scholar, Wood is at her most rigorous when writing about Marco Polo, and gives a good picture of the many versions of his *Divisament dou Monde*, and the problems of Polo's unreliable data therein. She also draws interestingly on a variety of English and Italian literary sources, showing some elements of the European picturing of Central Asia. Although footnotes point the way towards serious Western scholarship for those who would like to pursue it, Wood also cites more popular works without differentiating between them. It is also unfortunate that none of the extensive and detailed Silk Road scholarship in Chinese or Japanese is included as Wood's intent is to reveal the ongoing imagination of Central Asia from within and without. Such inclusion seems important, as even the English language translations (and concomitant framings) of Chinese texts that she cites may be influenced by the Eurocentric imagination she describes. This being said, I heartily recommend *The Silk Road* for its vivid tales, insightful anecdotes and fascinating prints. As James Elroy Flecker's poem indicates in the conclusion, the historical fascination with the sands of Taklamakan may have been as much with imagination as hard



goods:

“We travel not for trafficking alone,  
By hotter winds our fiery hearts are fanned,  
For lust of knowing what should not be known  
We make the Golden Journey to Samarkand”

**Reviewed by Michael Stanley-Baker, M.A. Candidate, East Asian Languages and Cultures Department**

***Did Marco Polo go to China?*  
Frances Wood (Secker & Warburg, 1995)**

It is not unusual for people to be stunned when they first hear the title of this book since the majority of the readers of Marco Polo's *Description of the World* took it for granted that he did indeed go to China. There are, however, some critics who have doubted the authenticity of *Description of the World* ever since its publication. Frances Wood's book, therefore, seeks to answer a question posed by many of her readers. Dr. Wood argues that Marco Polo himself probably never traveled much further than the family's trading posts on the Black Sea and in Constantinople, and was not responsible for Italian ice-cream or Chinese dumplings, this does not mean that the *Description of the World* does not remain a valuable source of information on China and the Near East, in particular. His usefulness as a recorder of information otherwise lost is similar to the case of Herodotus (c.484 BC to c.425 BC), who did not travel to all the places he described and who mixed fact with fantastic tales, but whose work is nevertheless not to be discarded lightly.

Dr. Wood points out that *Description of the World* is not a travelogue of Polo's trip to China. It is much more of a geographical or historical work than a personal account of things seen, and beyond the prologue, it contains remarkably few references to the Polos themselves. Wood claims, in accordance with the thoughts of many contemporary Chinese scholars, that Marco Polo's book, however full of wonderful descriptions, is also filled with inaccuracies and discrepancies. She looks at the omission of discussions of foot-binding and a visit to the Great Wall as significant, for example. While consistent inaccuracies and omissions may indicate this is an imagined journey, the fact that Wood assumes that the lack of an orderly itinerary outlined in the travelogue reflects that Polo did not reach China weakens her argument somewhat.

But even as she uses discussions of these omissions to bolster her argument, Wood is contradicting herself. She writes, “It could be argued that during the Mongol period, when the Polos were supposed to have been in China, [foot-binding] was not so widespread and, since women whose feet had been bound could not move far, possibly invisible to foreign travelers” (p.

72) or “It could also be argued that the enclosure of women meant that Marco Polo would have seen few upper-class Chinese women” (p. 73). Similarly, Wood spends a whole chapter on the omission of the Great Wall, surprised that Polo fails to mention it but also aware of the fact that it was not until the Ming (1368-1644), some decades after the Polos’ visit, that parts of the wall, including the sections nearest the capital, were faced with brick (p. 97). Indeed, without a careful study of construction and reconstruction of the Great Wall before or during the Yuan dynasty, which has already been done by some Chinese scholars, it would be a stretch to take the omission of the Great Wall as proof that the author had not been to China. On one hand, Dr. Wood’s work thoroughly embodies her academic honesty; on the other hand, the evidence she provides seems to indicate that she is still torn on the issue. It is true that scholars could not find evidence about Marco Polo in the historical records, but until Dr. Wood has more evidence, she is left with an unfinished argument.

**Reviewed by Ling Jiang, M.A. student of Chinese, East Asian Languages and Cultures Department**

---

## **PROFILES**

### **Fortuitous Coincidence**

Sara Friedman calls her current path of study a “fortuitous coincidence.” When she went to Yale her first year as an undergraduate, she knew that she was interested in foreign languages, but had no intention of studying Chinese. Yale had a rather lengthy “class-shopping” period, during which students had time to try out the classes they wanted to take, and Friedman found herself sitting in and enthralled with first-year Chinese. “The teacher Lu Taitai was so dynamic and made Chinese seem so interesting that I was immediately hooked. I ended up majoring in East Asian Studies,” Friedman explains. “My dad used to joke that I studied Chinese so that I could read the menus at Chinese restaurants.”

Yale's strong East Asian Studies program allowed Friedman to explore China from a variety of disciplines in classes taught by exceptional scholars. She focused on history and finished her degree with a senior thesis on Chinese women who attended Christian colleges during the 1920s and 1930s. After graduation, she joined the Princeton in Asia program and went to teach English at Fudan University in Shanghai for a year, a year which left her more committed to improving her Chinese and learning about contemporary Chinese societies.

Following her year with Princeton in Asia, Friedman went to Taiwan where she studied Chinese intensively at the Stanford Center. Not only did the program allow her to make tremendous progress with her Chinese, it also gave her more freedom than living in mainland China had. Students were able to live on their own and deal with day-to-day problems in a way that wasn't possible when she lived in Shanghai. “This is what helped my Chinese more than anything else,”

she points out.

After working for a year as an editor and translator for an international advertising agency, Friedman moved into international marketing for a Taiwanese shoe company that also had offices in the U.S. There she coordinated operations between the two offices and produced the company's marketing materials and sales promotion products. During this time, she continued to pursue an interest in journalism by doing free-lance writing for English-language magazines in Taiwan. "I thought I would like business, but it was neither meaningful nor challenging enough to hold my interest for any length of time. I liked journalism, but I was frustrated with the limits to the depth of research I could do. In the end, my stories had to be suitable for the general public which means I did not have the time or readership for the kinds of articles that I really wanted to write," says Friedman.

At about this time, she was finding that several of her friends from a feminist discussion group were going back for graduate degrees, many in anthropology. "When I started to think about applying to graduate school, I realized that I wanted to be in a discipline that allowed me to talk to people about their life experiences. Anthropology seemed to make a lot of sense. It would allow me to study issues in depth, and I thought that I would be able to draw upon my interest in history well," Friedman reflects. Cornell University had the strong interdisciplinary focus and range of China scholars that Friedman was looking for in a graduate program.

Though she knew that she was interested in women's issues from the beginning, it took a few more strokes of luck to lead her to her current research interest. In one of her first classes in grad school, Friedman learned about "delayed transfer marriages" while doing research for a paper on Chinese marriage and reproduction. Delayed transfer marriages are marriages in which the wife remains in her natal homes even after marriage and only visits her husband on special occasions such as festivals and harvest time. Only after a woman becomes pregnant with her first child does she move in with her husband's family. Friedman became interested in why this practice, which historically had existed in several parts of China, both Han and minority, only remained among the Han population in one region of Fujian province. While trying to understand why women remained so committed to this custom, she discovered a long history of state efforts to reform these marriage customs. Friedman began to see that marriage was as much a state project as it was an individual or family affair.

It is this discovery which has guided her research on China as well as her research on marriage in general. This semester, Friedman is teaching a course at IU Bloomington called "The Politics of Marriage." This course looks at marriage across various cultures and over time in order to examine its contested role as a key social, political and economic institution in society. Friedman, who is an assistant professor in both the Anthropology and Gender Studies departments, is happy to be at IU in Bloomington where she finds the wide range of East Asia-related faculty in a variety of departments coupled with excellent Anthropology and Gender Studies departments to be both exciting and inspiring as she pursues her own research. Though she will not be able to offer a China-related course until the 2005-06 academic year, students can catch Professor

Friedman in the spring in Cross-cultural Gender Formations (G215) and Research Methods in Cultural Anthropology (E606).

### Perfect Sense

A first glance at Chinese literature professor Lin Zou's curriculum vitae can leave one somewhat perplexed; she has a B.A. in Chemistry, an M.A. in Sociology, a second M.A. in British and American Literature, and a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature. To Zou, however, it all makes perfect sense. "In the 1980s in China, students were encouraged to study science if they could. Science was what caught my imagination then," begins Zou. She goes on to explain, "When a recruiter from Nanjing University told me I could study polymer chemistry, which was 'one of the ten most advanced sciences of the twentieth-century,' I knew that was what I would do."

To Zou, who rarely traveled out of her province, the transition to Nanjing was an exhilarating one. The trip from Guangxi to Nanjing took two nights and three days by train, and like most students, Zou found herself standing most of the trip. "To college students, taking the train and seeing the rest of China were quite symbolic of the university life ahead of them."

During the time that Zou was studying at Nanjing, the field of sociology began to undergo a rebirth after its near extinction in the 1950s. "At the time that I was a student, social sciences were discussed openly like never before, and I became interested in social issues and what was going on in China. I decided to enter the Sociology Department as soon as I finished my chemistry degree," Zou continues. Zou studied economic sociology. As she studied for this degree, Zou was able to participate in several field studies in the small towns of Jiangsu province. She looked at how economic development affected the lives of people living there and employer and employee relations in small enterprises of eight people or less. "Small towns with these enterprises were considered to be the model of economic development. They were seen as transitional areas between city and rural agricultural employment." After completing her M.A., Zou taught in the Department of Social Sciences at Dongnan (Southeast) University for three years.

Gradually, Zou became more interested in literature than in social sciences because of the difference in methodology. She also began to be interested in the contact between Eastern and Western cultures and what that contact has meant to China. Zou wanted to explore the same questions that drew her to sociology through the field of literature. In order to do this, she felt it was important to know not only Chinese literature but Western literature as well.

After completing her M.A. in British and American Literature at the University of Utah, Zou was finally ready to put all of the pieces together as she pursued her Ph.D. in comparative literature at Berkeley. Her dissertation, *The Emotive Self in Change and Exchange—Early 20th Century Chinese Writers' Responses to Classical Chinese Aesthetics* considers how modern Chinese writers respond to Western ideas and various political crises vis-à-vis classical Chinese

aesthetics. “Subjectivity and the question of agency are something that I am quite interested in. How do modern Chinese writers construct different versions of agency and subjectivity by drawing from classical Chinese literature as they respond to Western ideas?” asks Zou.

Zou entered college with a vague notion that she wanted to be a scientist to bring change to the world around her. “The scientific and social science training have definitely helped me in my current studies. All of these disciplines have taught me different ways of looking at the world and thinking about how people and ideas interact,” Zou concludes. In the end, she is still changing the world but just in a slightly different way.

Students can catch Professor Zou this semester in her class “Late Imperial and Contemporary Chinese Literature.” In the Spring, she will teach a graduate course in aesthetic theory and image perception in twentieth-century China as well as a fourth-year modern Chinese intensive reading course.

---

## FACULTY NOTES

**Chris Beckwith** (CEUS) recently published *Koguryo, the Language of Japan’s Continental Relatives: An Introduction to the Historical-comparative Study of the Japanese-Koguryoic Languages, With a Preliminary Description of Archaic Northeastern Middle Chinese*, Leiden: Brill, 2004, 300 pages. He has also received a Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad fellowship to write a book on historical problems connected to the Koguryo relationship to Japanese, which he is doing in Tokyo this year. Further, Professor Beckwith received a Guggenheim fellowship to write a history of Central Eurasia, focusing on the Early Central Eurasian Culture Complex.

**Scott Kennedy** (EALC) published “Holey Protectionism!,” *China Economic Quarterly*, vol. 8, no. 3 (Third Quarter, 2003), pp. 24-28.

**Yoshihisa Kitagawa** (LING) presented his research entitled “Prosodic Influences on Syntactic Judgments” with Janet Den Fodor (from CUNY Graduate Center) at *Empirische Fundierung der Modellbildung in der Syntax, Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft, (Empirical Foundations of Model-building in the Syntax, German Society of Linguistics)*, Johannes Gutenberg-Universität, Mainz in February 2004. His trip to Germany was supported in part by a travel grant from EASC. Professor Kitagawa published the following two articles this past summer with Satoshi Tomioka “Masked Island Effects in Japanese,” in *Proceedings of the Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics I — MIT Working Papers in Linguistics 46*, pp. 315-329, with Dorian Roehrs and Satoshi Tomioka, “Multiple Wh-interpretations,” *Generative Grammar*

**Scott O'Bryan** (EALC & HIST) traveled in Tokyo, Hiroshima and Nagasaki during May 2004 to do research on the history of environmentalism in modern Japan and as part of his development of a new course on modern history as seen through the history of Hiroshima. He is also preparing an article manuscript called "The Club of Rome, Dystopias of Growth, and Japanese Environmentalism" for submission to the journal *Environmental History*. This fall Professor O'Bryan is teaching two new courses: "Cultural History of the Good Life in Modern Japan" and "Empire in Modern East Asia."

**Heidi Ross** (EDUC) spent one month this summer conducting research in Shaanxi Province and Beijing Municipality. In Beijing Ross worked with Li Yiru, retired principal of the Beijing Hua Xia Girls' Academy, to design a questionnaire for a network of 40 principals who administer China's all-girls' academic secondary schools. She also began organizing school visits for Indiana University undergraduates who will be traveling to Japan and China next May as part of the Spring 2005 study tour course, "Educational Reform in China and Japan," that Ross will be team teaching with Professor Richard Rubinger in EALC.

In Shaanxi, Ross collaborated with two colleagues on a Ford Foundation project on Chinese private higher education. As a delegation member from a San Francisco-based NGO, the 1990 Institute, Ross also participated in two mass primary school graduation ceremonies for 1,000 "spring bud" girls in the cities of Shangluo and Ankang. The spring bud program, the largest of its kind in China, has supported the girls' schooling since third grade and will continue to do so as they begin their middle school studies. This program has generated a rich "data set" of information, including household, health, and nutrition surveys, school achievement data, teacher assessments, and student essays, assignments, and letters. Ross will collaborate with the Shaanxi Women's Federation to begin a longitudinal study to answer whether, how, and in what ways schooling improves the girls' lives and futures (and by extension the lives and futures of their family members and communities).

**Lynn Struve** (EALC) presented her paper "Confucian PTSD: Reading Trauma in a Chinese Youngster's Memoir of 1653" at the biennial conference of the European Association of China Scholars in Heidelberg, Germany in late August. This paper will be published this fall in a thematic issue of the journal *History & Memory* on "Traumatic Memory in Chinese History," for which Struve served as principal editor. The fall 2004 issue of *Late Imperial China* will also feature an article by Struve, "Ruling from Sedan Chair: Wei Yijie and the Civil Examination Reforms of the 'Oboi' Regency." In addition, a book that she has edited, *The Qing Formation in World-historical Time*, will be released shortly in the monograph series of the Harvard University Asia Center. It contains Struve's introduction as well as her article "Chimerical Early Modernity: The Case of 'Conquest-Generation' Memoirs."

**Natsuko Tsujimura** (EALC & LING) conducted research at Kokuritsu Kokugo Kenkyujo in

Japan in May investigating children's acquisition patterns of mimetic words in Japanese. This research was made possible by a grant from the Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies. In July, she finished editing a three-volume series entitled *Japanese Linguistics*, the Routledge Library Modern Japan Series, which will be published in the spring of 2005.

**Jeff Wasserstrom** (EALC & HIST) has recently published several short pieces on issues in Chinese studies, including a look at the perils of predicting the future of the Communist regime ("Will the Party Never End?"), which ran in July in the *Australian Financial Review*, and a look at changing patterns of intellectual debate and dissent in the PRC ("Reading China"), which ran in the Summer issue of the *Boston Review*. In July he gave an invited talk at Sophia University in Tokyo on his ongoing Shanghai project, and at the end of October, he will set off for Taiwan to give a series of talks at several Taipei universities and institutes. His article on "The Boxer Crisis" will appear this month in *Taming Terrorism: It's Been Done Before*, which Anna Reid is editing for *Policy Exchange*, a British think tank. In addition to these activities, he continues to write very short and medium-length reviews on a fairly regular basis for Newsweek's international editions.

**Yasuko Ito Watt** (EALC) gave a lecture on the articulation of Japanese language education between secondary schools and colleges and universities at the Japan Foundation in London on May 15, 2004. She was invited by the British Association of Teachers of Japanese (BATJ) and the Japan Foundation in London.

### **In other faculty/staff news...**

The EASC welcomes new members: **Joe Hoffman** (LAW), **Nicholas Cullather** (HIST), **Greg Waller** (CMCL), **Marc Dollinger** (BUS), **James Nakagawa** (FINA), **Rick Harbaugh** (BUS), **Gardner Bovingdon** (CEUS), and **Sarah Friedman** (GNDR) as well as new associate members: **Jacques Fuqua**, **Anne Prescott**, **Liana Zhou** (Kinsey), **Judy Stubbs** (Art Museum), **Shawn Reynolds** (Int'l Resource Center), **Yoshiko Green** (Foreign Languages, IU-SB), and **Jian Liu** (Library).

---

## **STUDENT & ALUMNI NOTES**

**Brain Flaherty** (M.A. student in EALC) and his wife Lan welcomed baby son Cian Ouray Flaherty on August 31, 2004.

**Margaret Key** (Ph.D. candidate in EALC) was awarded a Summer Dissertation Fellowship by the University Graduate School.

**Kyoim Yun** (Ph.D. Candidate in Folklore & Ethnomusicology, minor in EALC) has received a

COAS Dissertation Year Research Fellowship for 2004-05. Funded by a Gerald L. Davis Travel Grant from the American Folklore Society (AFS), she will give a paper entitled "Entrepreneurial Spirit and Innovative Ritual Technology" at the annual meeting of AFS in October, 2004 in Salk Lake City, Utah.

**Liora Sarfati** (Ph.D. student in EALC and Folklore & Ethnomusicology) received the SOFOKS fellowship for Korean studies from the East Asian Studies Center for her study on shamanism in Korea.

**Jeeyoung Shin** (Ph.D. candidate in Communication and Culture, minor in EALC) participated in the Asia in the Curriculum Symposium, introducing the film *The Way Home* on September 16th and presenting a panel with Professor Michael Robinson on "Asian Film in the Classroom" the on 17th.

### **In other student news...**

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures would like to announce its undergraduate Spring 2004 award winners:

**Emily Sekine** received the Yasuda Memorial Scholarship for excellence in Japanese Studies.

**Yoshiko Onoue, Andrew Sabo** and **Peter Voakes** received the Uehara Memorial Scholarship for excellence in East Asian Studies.

**Stephen Getz** received the James and Noriko Gines Scholarship for excellence in an East Asian language combined with pre-professional studies.

**Ryan Powers** won the Paul Nutter Memorial Scholarship for commitment to East Asian language study.

East Asian Studies Center undergraduate award winners include:

**Melissa Denton** who won the Alpine Prize.

**Terry Clark** who won the EASC Prize.

**Jessica Lascola** who won the Korean Studies Prize.

---

Last updated: 10/15/2004

URL: <http://www.indiana.edu/~easc/newsletter>

Comments: [easc@indiana.edu](mailto:easc@indiana.edu)



