

SETON HALL'S ASIAN VOICE

FALL 2012

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WELCOME BACK



Welcome to the Fall 2012 edition of the Asian Voice. This semester we would like to congratulate our recent graduates as well as our new students and faculty members. This has been a very active academic semester and all of the Asian Studies students

have been working very hard. This issue will present you with the work our students are doing and the events they are coordinating and participating in both on and off campus. We hope you enjoy this brief portrayal of our wonderful community!

Welcome from the Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures



This has been a great semester for the Asian Studies Program. We are delighted to have a large number of graduate students who joined us this semester. October was an exciting month as we celebrated Chinese and Japanese culture with Chinese Music, Dance, and Martial Arts as well as Japanese calligraphy

and a Sushi workshop. In addition Dr. Annabella Pitkin from Columbia University gave an engaging lecture on Tibet. We also reached out to our community during Hurricane Sandy and are pleased that everyone persevered through this difficult experience.

- Dr. Anne Mullen-Hohl

A Message from the Director of Graduate Studies



The Fall 2012 semester has witnessed a strong interest among our graduate students in conference participation. Two students presented their work at 41st Annual MAR/AAS Conference held at West Chester University. More of our students also intended to present but were unable to make the trip due to Hurricane Sandy.

Six students also attended the ACTF/CLTA 2012 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. We encourage graduate students to participate in more conferences in upcoming semesters and to utilize our recently established travel fund, which helps financially support their travel and participation in these conferences.

- Dongdong Chen

Remarks from the Director of the Asian Studies Program



Welcome to the Fall 2012 edition of the Asian Voice, our bi-annual newsletter for the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures and the Asian Studies Program. We welcome Dr. Scott Gregory (Ph.D, Princeton University, 2012) to the Asian Studies Program, who specializes in Chinese Literature and East Asian Civilization. This academic year, the Asian Studies Program is under program review by the

Middle State Accreditation and we are currently discussing a 5-year Asian Studies Strategic Plan. During this program review, Asian Studies is undergoing a curriculum assessment, which includes the E-Portfolio Project and the online language exit examination. Furthermore, we are very thankful for our recently received graduate student travel funding from Vivi Chan '76. We are looking forward to the exciting new academic year.

-Dr. Shigeru Osuka

Welcome New Professors & Congratulations

This year the Asian Studies Program would like to welcome several new faculty members to our department. Dr. Scott W. Gregory joins us from Princeton University. Dr. Gregory defended his dissertation in East Asian Studies in May 2012. His research interests are in the development of traditional vernacular fiction and fiction commentary, and the intersection of fiction and late imperial book culture. His dissertation was on the shifting significance of the traditional novel as seen through the example of the *Shui-hu zhuan* (The Water Margin). Before entering graduate school, Dr. Gregory lived in Asia for many years (Taipei for five and Kyoto for two) and traveled extensively through the region.

Dr. Yan Wang, who joins us from Beijing, and recently received his Ph.D. in Literary Criticism from Peking University. Dr. Wang is a former graduate of Seton Hall University. He joins the department as a Visiting Scholar in for this fall semester. Dr. Chun Li joins English Department from Wuhan University and his specialty is in translation in the fields of science and technology. The department would also like to congratulate Dr. Shigeru Osuka for his promotion to full Professor. Dr. Osuka has been at Seton Hall for fifteen years and has taught courses on Japanese history, religion, and culture as well as Japanese language. We would also like to congratulate Dr. Jorge Lopez-Cortina

and Dr. Jose M. Prieto who were promoted to Associate Professors. Both Dr. Lopez-Cortina and Dr. Prieto teach Spanish language courses. The department welcomed Dr. Gregory, Dr. Wang, and Dr. Li, and congratulated Dr. Osuka, Dr. Lopez-Cortina and Dr. Prieto at the department luncheon this September.



Students and faculty at the Asian Studies Department Luncheon



Students attend the first e-Portfolio meeting

Implementing Language Portfolio

Starting this semester the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures is utilizing new technology to track the progress of students studying modern language and culture. This digital portfolio requires students studying a language to create a "language portfolio" which they are to update each semester. Students will submit materials in their target language such as essays, homework, or other materials which will allow them to document their language skills and later evaluate their progress over time. Students will also set goals and expectations for themselves and will be able to monitor their progress and path to achieving their goals. They will also write about their interests and cultural experiences with the target language.

Tibetan Culture and Language Presentation



For International Month 2012, Dr. Annabella Pitkin, Assistant Professor of the Department of Asian and Middle Eastern Cultures, Barnard College, Columbia University, gave an engaging lecture titled "Tibetan Culture and Language: Continuity and Change." She discussed the regional dialect differences, processes of language change and the relationship between language, history, and culture.

Join the Asian Studies Association

If you wish to join the Asian Studies Association, please contact Myra Reyes at myra.reyes@student.shu.edu or Dr. Dongdong Chen, advisor for the Asian Studies Association, at dongdong.chen@shu.edu

Japanese Calligraphy and Sushi

International Month 2012 offered all sorts of entertaining and educational programs for the Seton Hall community. On October 25th, the Japanese department hosted a calligraphy workshop lead by Dr. Shigeru Osuka. He demonstrated the proper technique for holding a brush and how to create calligraphy characters while portraying feeling and deep emotion. Later on he even handed out his own calligraphy samples to workshop attendees. Those who attended the workshop sat on newspaper-covered tables equipped with brushes, ink, and paper. One did not need to know anything about Japan to attend and participate; there were informational packets with various characters that could be drawn along with their respective meanings. On November 13th, the Japanese program also sponsored its annual sushi workshop. Despite being rescheduled due to Hurricane Sandy, there was still a great turnout. Mr. Takahashi, owner of Wasabi Japanese Restaurant in Ridgewood, NJ, has kindly demonstrated his skills at this event for over ten years now. He started off his presentation with a brief history of sushi and its journey to the United States. Workshop attendees learned about the proper way to eat sushi as well as a step-by-step process of making sushi. After the presentation, attendees were treated to free sushi.



International Month events in the Beck Room



Chinese Events During International Month



Chinese International Month events on campus



On October 15th, the Chinese program sponsored a Chinese Calligraphy Workshop. Professor Cynthia Fellows presented the history of Chinese calligraphy and the basic techniques. She also portrayed in detail aspects of the brush, the ink, the rice paper and how to draw Chinese calligraphy. Later that same day, the Chinese program invited Professor Hong Zhang from SUNY Binghamton to present a lecture about China's ethnic groups and their songs. The speaker used multimedia resources to introduce the costumes, customs, dances, and music of some of these ethnic groups and then followed with a recital. Professor Zhang has been an active soloist in many concerts and groups, including the Shanghai Philharmonic Society, the Milwaukee Symphony Chorus, the Milwaukee Chamber Orchestra, the Symphony Orchestra of the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Eastern Silk. On October 17th, the Chinese program hosted a performance on Chinese music, dance and martial arts. A group of children from Huaxia Chinese School in South Jersey played Chinese musical instruments, performed traditional Chinese dances and demonstrated Chinese martial arts. Three graduate students from the Asian Studies joined in them playing piano and singing.

Vivian Chan '76 Asian Studies Graduate Travel

Thanks to the generous gratitude of one of Seton Hall's former graduate Vivi Chan, the Vivi Chan '76 Asian Studies Graduate Student Travel Fund has been established. Seton Hall Asian Studies graduate students are now eligible to receive compensa-

tion for travel to academic conferences. Every student is eligible to receive up to \$100 reimbursement for travel expenses such as gas, lodging, conference fee, etc. during their time at Seton Hall University. Several students who traveled to this years MAR/AAS Conference at West

Chester University in Pennsylvania have already taken advantage of this great opportunity. We encourage more of our students to apply for upcoming conferences. If you would like more information about the fund or would like to apply, please contact Dr. Chen.



SHU students at MAR/AAS. Michael Dutko is second from right.

Call for Papers

This coming semester at Seton Hall we have two upcoming conferences which we encourage students to apply. In May, the **11th Annual Conference of Chinese Language Teaching Association-Great New York** is accepting abstracts on topics relevant to technology, student motivation, administration, pedagogy, linguistics, culture and translation, immersion, assessment and related topics. Proposals must be received by February 15th and should be sent through e-mail to clta.gny@gmail.com. Please attach the form found at <http://clta.gny.org/12confcallforpapers.html>. The Japanese Program will host the **16th Annual Graduate Student and School Teacher Symposium on Japanese Studies** on April 5th and welcomes topics on a variety of disciplines regarding Japanese Studies. Proposals must be postmarked by February 15th. For further information, please contact Dr. Shigeru Osuka at osukashi@shu.edu.

Experience at MAR/AAS by Michael Dutko

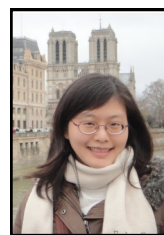
This was my first time attending the MAR/AAS yearly conference. I honestly didn't know what to expect, but I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Having the chance to present my research, receive useful feedback and provide the same for others provided useful perspectives for my future studies, and being able to have a chance to meet professionals in the field also gives me something to aspire. I would recommend that any incoming graduate students take advantage of the opportunity to present at the next conference this coming year. The deadline to apply is May 1st; hope to see you there!

Recent Graduate Employments



SHU in Japan

Seton Hall June in China



Hsiu-Ting Yu, M.A. 2012, obtained a position teaching Chinese in the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. She is currently teaching second year Chinese language courses for the department.



Kristin Wingate, M.A. 2012, is currently teaching Japanese as a second language at Ridge High School in Basking Ridge, NJ. Kristin teaches Intermediate I, II, Pre-Advanced, and AP Japanese classes.

Asian Studies provides two summer study abroad opportunities: June in China and SHU in Japan. Above are some of the pictures from these programs last summer. For more information please contact Dr. Chen for June in China and Dr. Osuka for SHU in Japan.