



# Asian Studies Development Program Alumni Newsletter

October 2007

## Editor's Greeting:

This is the inaugural edition of the Asian Studies Development Program's Alumni Newsletter. <ASDP is one chapter among many in the East-West Center Association (EWCA).> We hope to make the Newsletter informative and interesting, something you will look forward to as it appears twice a year each October and April.

What follows is our initial effort. The graphics and look are rather simple. We hope the content is not. The Associate Editors and I hope to cultivate and develop the Newsletter in future issues. We ask for your reactions, thoughts, and above all, submissions.

We start off (see below) with greetings and comments from leaders of the Asian Studies Development Program. [Julien Farland, Editor]



## Message From East-West Center President, Charles E. Morrison:

Recently, I was describing the ASDP to Mei Ping, who has served as China's consul general in San Francisco and as ambassador in Ottawa, and who is now heading the China National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation. "This is just what we need," Ambassador Mei exclaimed, noting that his committee has chapters all over China.

Indeed, one of the greatest challenges in a globalizing world is to ensure that it is not just a narrow elite but a much broader population that possesses the tools to take advantages of the many opportunities associated with globalization.

The value of the ASDP is that it works with faculty at two and four year schools that generally do not have "Asian studies" as such, but educate huge numbers of students and are thus the mainstream of our tertiary system. ASDP is intended to encourage these hard-working teaching faculty by providing opportunities for further development of their knowledge of Asia and thus to help open the eyes of their students to the part of the world that is ultimately the most important for the future of the United States. Increasingly in ASDP's future, it will also be two-way, providing similar services for Asia's growing tertiary institutions.

This ASDP chapter alumni newsletter marks another step in ASDP's progress, providing an opportunity for ASDP faculty to keep in touch with each other and with the activities of the network as a whole. The East-West Center is proud to join with the University of Hawaii, and the ASDP schools, regional centers, and faculty in the further development of this vital 17-year-old program, and we applaud the inauguration of the chapter alumni newsletter.

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## Message From ASDP Co-Director, Elizabeth Buck:

Congratulations to the alums of ASDP for creating another, new community-building venue for the many people who have been involved, since 1991, in ASDP summer institutes, Asia field studies, workshops on the mainland and annual meetings. ASDP, a joint program of the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center, is the largest and most active East-West Center alumni chapter. In 2004, at the International EWC/EWCA international conference in Tokyo, ASDP was named the EWC outstanding chapter. And two of our ASDP leaders, David Jones and Ronnie Littlejohn, were singled out for their leadership as ASDP/EWC alums. This newsletter is one more example of the strong sense of community that ties us together, and we are grateful to Julien Farland for stepping forward to be the editor.

The ASDP Alumni Newsletter as a way for ASDP alums and friends to share news about a variety of things, including what's going on at their schools related to Asian studies, books and articles they have published, suggestions for Asia-related books and films, and personal news about honors received, job changes, retirements, travel, etc.

The ASDP Alumni Newsletter takes the place of ASIA, the ASDP newsletter that has become the increasingly irregular and too costly to mail to the 1000+ people on the ASDP mailing list too. For us here at ASDP central – Roger Ames, Peter Hershock, Virginia Suddath, Sandy Osaki, Grant Otoshi, Cheryl Hidano and myself, as well as our colleagues at the University of Hawaii and the East-West Center, the alumni newsletter is a nice way of linking active and retired ASDP alums and friends.

So, the news about ASDP: This summer was the usual busy three months: the 5<sup>th</sup> Institute on Korea Cultures and Society, an NEH on Chinese culture; the 17<sup>th</sup> Infusing Institute and a China-US faculty exchange for 15 Chinese faculty. The latter program included San Francisco and Atlanta, with faculty from those two ASDP regional centers hosting the Chinese for several days. We particularly want to thank Stephan Johnson from the City College of San Francisco and David Jones from Kennesaw for their assistance.

ASDP had a wonderful workshop, held in Savannah, on Islam in Asia. It was hosted by Georgia Southern University and co-sponsored by the ASDP regional center at Kennesaw State University. Paul Rodell did a masterful job of coordinating it. Next up in the middle of October (18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>), is a workshop on China hosted by Portland Community College. Sylvia Grey and the PCC international committee, working with Peter, put together a program that includes Henry Rosemont, Stanley Murashige, Emily Yeh and Peter. Ray (1991) and Bonnie Olson, who spend part of their retirement time in Portland, have promised to be there. More later about ASDP spring workshops at Grand Valley State in Michigan, Xavier University in Ohio, and the University of Texas at El Paso.

I hope we're all making plans to attend the ASDP national meeting in Chicago, March 6-8, 2008. These national meetings are planned and organized by ARC, the council of ASDP Regional Centers. This will be the 14<sup>th</sup> national ASDP meeting, with the College of DuPage as the hosting school regional center. Keith Kraseman has found a great hotel right in the middle of exciting downtown Chicago.

If you know of ASDP alums and others who are not on the ASDP mailing list, please urge them to get in touch with Sandy Osaki ([Osakis@eastwestcenter.org](mailto:Osakis@eastwestcenter.org)) to get their names added.

My thanks to Julien Farland (Class of 1991) for volunteering to be the newsletter editor, and also to the ASDP alumni board.



**Message From Gordon Ring, Executive Director, East-West Center Association:**

Congratulations on your new ASDP Newsletter. This publication will further strengthen the bonds that link your members together. Your chapter is a fine example of a dynamic network of colleagues who share a vision for improving understanding and good relations in the Asia Pacific region.

I am delighted with the growth and spirit of the ASDP Chapter. Your chapter has made great strides since its founding in building a strong organization that meets the needs of its members. Your academic journal and listserv provide valuable information for the alumni. Last March I had the opportunity to attend your annual meeting in Seattle. I especially noted the quality of the presentations and the enthusiasm of the participants. Your accomplishments serve as a model for other EWCA chapters to follow.

I also appreciate the interest your chapter members have in participating in EWCA conferences. We had a great turnout of ASDP alumni at our last International Conference in Hanoi last December. I am sure we will have many ASDP members attending our next Conference in Bali which will be held from November 13 – 15, 2008. Mark your calendars now and begin planning for some ASDP panels to highlight issues that are important to your members.

Again, let me complement you on another achievement, the launching of your new ASDP Newsletter. Keep up the good work!

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**A Message from the ASDP Alumni Chapter President David Jones:**

It's indeed a pleasure to see our inaugural issue of the ASDP Newsletter published. The Newsletter will be yet another level of connection and communication between members of the most active alumni chapter of the EWCA.

The Newsletter only will be as successful as we make it. Please send along your accomplishments (no false modesty allowed here) and stories, poems, thoughts, and so forth to our editor, Julien Farland (Middlesex College).

Without Julien's hard work, guidance, and diligence, this inaugural issue would never have made it to fruition. I thank Julien and the staff of the ASDP Alumni Newsletter Associate Editors for making this issue possible: Karen Buckley (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater), Howard A. Giskin (Suzhou University and Appalachian State University), Sara E. Orel (Truman State University), and Reginald Spittle (Madera Community College).

The ASDP Alumni Chapter Executive Board met at the 2007 ASDP National Conference in Seattle last March. At the meeting, we decided to pursue establishing the Chapter as a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization. Such a designation will allow us to raise money for alumni activities and causes such as the first ever Best Student Paper Prize Awards at the ASDP National Conferences. Awards from the 2007 Conference went to Robert Smid (Boston University Religious and Theological Studies Program) for his "Locating David Hall: Between

Default Nominalism and Scotistic Realism” and John A. Sweeney (University of Hawai'i Religion Department) for his “Unearthing the God of Place: Identity and Place within Popular Forms of Chinese Religiosity.”

The next Executive Board Meeting of the ASDP Alumni Chapter will be held in Chicago at the 2008 National Conference. If you have any items you wish us to discuss or suggestions, please let me or one of the other Board Members know. We have also requested some time on the program for an open meeting where we can exchange information, concerns, and ideas.

The ASDP Alumni Chapter Executive Board is comprised of the following officers:

Vice President

Linda Lindsey <[lindsey@maryville.edu](mailto:lindsey@maryville.edu)>  
(Marysville College)

Secretary, Michele Marion <[michele.marion@pvmail.maricopa.edu](mailto:michele.marion@pvmail.maricopa.edu)>  
(Paradise Valley Community College)

Treasurer, Paul Dunscomb <[afped@uaa.alaska.edu](mailto:afped@uaa.alaska.edu)>  
(University of Alaska at Anchorage)

Member at Large, Bettye Walsh <[bwalsh@pvcc.edu](mailto:bwalsh@pvcc.edu)>  
(Piedmont Virginia Community College)

Member at Large, Ronnie Littlejohn <[littlejohnr@mail.belmont.edu](mailto:littlejohnr@mail.belmont.edu)>  
(Belmont University)

Please feel free to contact me or any of the Alumni Executive Board members with suggestions, ideas, or concerns.

The Asian Studies Development Program has enriched the lives of so many faculty members and their students. It is only fitting its alumni respond appropriately by doing what no other EWCA Chapter does. We continue to produce *East-West Connections: Review of Asian Studies*, deliver the national ASDP Conference, create grant opportunities for field studies, institutes, and workshops, communicate through ASDP-L (our listserv), and now we've created yet another dimension to reach out to each other through our newly created Newsletter.

This inaugural issue of our Newsletter adds yet another dimension to our connection with each other and complements our activities through the Asian Studies Development Program, the ASDP Association of Regional Centers, and the East-West Center.

Our Newsletter needs a name. Any ideas?

It is not an act of hubris when I proclaim that no other chapter does all that we do. We are committed to collaborating with and enhancing other chapters as we strive for even greater accomplishments and complexity within our own collective work.

So, please support the efforts of Julien, Karen, Howard, Sara, and Reginald with your stories, news items, thoughts, and announcements.

## The Organization of ASDP

There has been some confusion about the many layers of the Asian Studies Development Program. ASDP is a joint program of the University of Hawai'i and the East-West Center and the parent program of the Association of Regional Centers (ARC) and the ASDP Alumni Chapter. ASDP was initiated to increase American understanding of the Asia-Pacific region through college and university faculty development programs through the co-directorship of Betty Buck of the East-West Center and Roger Ames of the University of Hawai'i. Peter Hershock is the ASDP Coordinator, Virginia Sudduth is Program Associate, and Sandy Osaki is the ASDP Secretary.

ASDP plans and organizes summer residential institutes in Honolulu, workshops at mainland colleges, and field studies in Asia. These programs are designed to enhance teaching about Asia and support curriculum and program development. ASDP Regional Centers serve as mentoring campuses in their areas. ASDP workshops are hosted by ARC institutions as well as other colleges and universities in the ASDP network.

In 1998, ARC was created to assist and supplement ASDP's programs and initiatives. As a 501(C)(3) tax exempt organization, ARC is also capable of writing grants for funding in support of the type of programs complementing ASDP's mission such as faculty development, field study, and workshops. In 2002 and 2006, ARC was awarded two Fulbright Hayes grants for faculty field study in Singapore, Malaysia, and Brunei. In addition, ARC organizes the ASDP National Conference (site selection, planning, and delivery) and the hosting ARC institution receives a subvention from ASDP to defray some of its expenses. ARC also publishes *East-West Connections: Review of Asian Studies*. Each participating ARC regional center pays annual dues to ARC and has a director. ARC directors meet twice a year, once at the National Meeting and in the fall. The ARC Executive Board is elected by regional center directors for two year terms. Current officers are: Joe Overton, Executive Director; Jeff Dippman, Treasurer; George Brown, Secretary; and Michele Marion and Paul Dunscomb, Members At-Large.

The 20 regional centers comprising ARC are: University of Alaska Anchorage, Belmont University, Black Hawk College, University of Central Arkansas, Central Washington University, City College of San Francisco, College of DuPage, Eckerd College, Johnson County Community College, Kapi'olani Community College, Kennesaw State University, Middlesex Community College, Missouri State University, Morgan State University, Paradise Valley Community College, Community College of Philadelphia, Slippery Rock University, Trident Technical College, Tulsa Community College, and University of Redlands.

Another aspect of ASDP is its listserv ASDP-L moderated by Ken Harris and David Jones. ASDP programs and events are also posted on the ASDP web site <[www.eastwestcenter.org/edu-ct.asp](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/edu-ct.asp)> and ARC website <[www.asianrc.org](http://www.asianrc.org)>.

A final tier of the ASDP organization is its Alumni Chapter, which is the largest and the most active chapter of the 50+ East-West Center Association (EWCA) chapters throughout the Asia Pacific and U.S. The goal of each chapter is to support the Center by broadening its outreach throughout its region. ASDP was the very first program chapter (as opposed to geographic chapters) through the efforts of Joe Overton. Given this distinction, the ASDP Chapter focuses more on facilitating professional networking through a variety of activities including the ASDP National Conference, the publication of *East-West Connections*, and the new ASDP Chapter Newsletter (edited by Julien Farland) and by running seminars, lectures, and workshops in relation to ASDP and ARC activities. The ASDP chapter officers are elected by ASDP alumni and serve, in accordance with chapter by-laws, 2 year terms (with the exception of the secretary and treasurer who serve three year terms). Current officers (elected in 2006) are David Jones, President; Linda Lindsey, Vice President; Michele Marion, Secretary; Paul Dunscomb, Treasurer; Betty Walsh and Ronnie Littlejohn are Members at Large.

These many layers make up the ASDP family.

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## ASDP Calendar

### National Conference

The Asian Studies Development Program will hold its fourteenth annual conference in Chicago, Illinois, from Thursday, March 6 through Saturday, March 8, 2008. The conference will be held at the Embassy Suites Chicago Downtown – Lakefront, 511 N. Columbus Drive, Chicago. College of DuPage is the host institution. COD's Keith Kraseman [ [kraseman@cdnet.cod.edu](mailto:kraseman@cdnet.cod.edu) ] is in charge of local arrangements. Mark Esposito [ [espositom@bhc.edu](mailto:espositom@bhc.edu) ] of Black Hawk College is the Program Chair.

#### Relevant links:

<http://www.eastwestcenter.org/education/asian-studies-development-program/asdp-national-conference/>  
[http://www.eastwestcenter.org/fileadmin/resources/education/asdp\\_pdfs/ASDP\\_2008\\_Registration\\_Form.pdf](http://www.eastwestcenter.org/fileadmin/resources/education/asdp_pdfs/ASDP_2008_Registration_Form.pdf)

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### Portland Community College

On October 18 – 20, 2007, Portland Community College held a symposium, *Looking Over the Wall: Understanding the Old and New China*, sponsored by the East-West Center's Asian Studies Development Program (ASDP) and PCC.

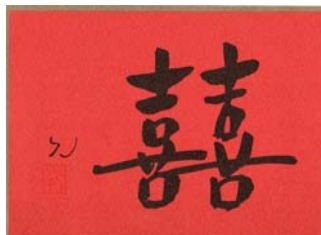
The presentations featured speakers nationally known in their respective fields: Dr. Peter Hershock on Why Asian Studies and Why Now?; Dr. Henry Rosemont on Confucian Role Ethics and its Contemporary Relevance: Discourse on Human Rights; Dr. Stanley Murashige on Chinese Painting and Calligraphy: A Disciplined Spontaneity; Dr. Emily Yeh on Green China?: Teaching Challenges of China's Environmental Degradation and Protection. In addition there was a traditional Chinese puppet show by the widely acknowledged Dragon Art Studio, a panel discussion, and an optional guided visit to the Portland Chinese Classical Garden. [Submitted by Sylvia Gray, Instructor of History, Service-Learning Faculty Coordinator for Sylvania, Portland Community College]

<http://www.pcc.edu/programs/asian-studies/documents/china-conference.pdf>

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### Grand Valley State University

On February 28---March 1, 2008, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, Michigan will hold a workshop, *Asian Values and Contemporary Issues* (tentative title),  
Speakers: Nelly Van-Doorn Herder, Henry Rosemont, Bill LaFleur, Peter Hershock  
Contact: Ni Peimin; [nip@gvsu.edu](mailto:nip@gvsu.edu)



## Alumni Updates & Newsbits

Here are some newsbits [*credit to William Madden for this word*] and updates about ASDP alumni:

### William Madden

ASDP '05 alumnus, William Madden, Instructor of Humanities at Georgia Perimeter College, served as co-leader for his college's first study abroad program to China, a five-week intensive language study experience at Nanjing Normal University, Nanjing P.R.C. attended by ten students. Views pics and stories of the NNU program at: [www.postcardsfromasia.blogspot.com](http://www.postcardsfromasia.blogspot.com).

### Guangqiu Xu

Dr. Guangqiu Xu's new book, *Congress and the U.S.-China Relationship, 1949-1979* (ISBN 978-1-931968-39-3), was published recently by the University of Akron Press. For more information on this book, please go to the website <http://www3.uakron.edu/uapress/xu.html> This book, showing how Congress became a key factor in the formulation and conduct of China policy, has opened up the history of the period to an analysis of how legislative power, direct and indirect, can affect foreign policy and change the course of world events. Dr. Guangqiu Xu is Professor of History at Friends University, Wichita, Kansas

### Richard Ball

Richard Ball, participant in ASDP field studies and seminars held at the East-West Center, and in China, Japan, and Korea, has retired after 27 years as a sociology professor at Ferris State University in Michigan. He also taught as a Fulbright Lecturer at Tokyo University and at Hankuk University of Foreign Studies in Seoul in the 1990s, and plans to stay active in Asian studies.

### Greg Moore

Greg Moore is an assistant professor of political science and East Asian Studies at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg, Florida. Greg has also served as Assistant Director of the Center for China-United States Relations at the University of Denver, and he received his doctorate from the University of Denver's Graduate School of International Studies. He has written numerous articles, essays and book chapters on international relations, Chinese foreign policy and East Asian politics and international relations, and is currently working on a book on Sino-American relations.

He did the Korean Institute at the EWC and ASDP at the University of Hawai'i in May, 2004 and has an article on China – North Korean relations coming out in January 2008. The article is entitled, "How North Korea threatens China's interests: understanding Chinese 'duplicity' on the North Korean nuclear issue" Here is the URL for the link to the online version (which is already out):

<http://irap.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/authordata?d=10.1093/irap/lcm023&k=0b8e1ddf>

### Jim Deitrick

Jim Deitrick, Director, Interdisciplinary Program in Religious Studies & Coordinator, Interdisciplinary Program in Asian Studies, University of Central Arkansas, Conway Arkansas sends the following article:

#### *Professors Learn about Japan*

Over 60 professors from across the country attended the "Teaching Japan Workshop" at Brewer-Hegeman Conference at the University of Central Arkansas, February 15-17, 2007. The interdisciplinary workshop explored Japanese culture in relation to contemporary social realities with the aim of helping college and university instructors develop their ability to teach about this important area of the world. It included presentations by experts in the field of Japanese Studies as well as informal discussion of how to integrate insights from this workshop into undergraduate, especially General Education, courses.

The workshop opened Thursday evening with a welcoming reception at Buffalo Alumni Hall. The reception included a demonstration of traditional song and dance by a group of UCA Japanese exchange students. Dr. Bruce Baird of the University of Massachusetts, Amherst spoke on Friday morning on Japanese intellectual history and the contemporary art form, manga. Although not originally scheduled to do so, he also spoke on Friday afternoon on Japanese theater when Dr. William R. Lafleur (University of Pennsylvania), who was scheduled to speak, had to cancel due to bad weather.

Participants watched the film *Rashoman* by legendary filmmaker Akira Kurosawa on Friday evening, which served as the basis for Dr. Keiko McDonald's (University of Pittsburgh) Saturday-afternoon talk about Japanese film. Anthropologist Dr. Linda White (Middlebury College) spoke Saturday morning on gender issues in contemporary Japan. The workshop concluded Saturday with a roundtable discussion about how to integrate what was learned at the workshop into participant's courses.

The Teaching Japan Workshop was co-sponsored by the Asian Studies Development Program--a joint program of the East-West Center and the University of Hawai'i--and the Humanities and World Cultures Institute at the University of Central Arkansas with funding from the Freeman Foundation.

### **Middlesex Community College's One World Series presents Glenn Kumekawa**

Glenn Kumekawa, a leading public-planning expert and veteran of a World War II relocation camp for Japanese-Americans spoke at Middlesex Community College, Bedford, Massachusetts on Thursday, October 11 from 10:30 – 11:30AM.

Mr. Kumekawa was 14 years old when he and his family were given two weeks to leave their home in San Francisco. They ended up behind barbed wire for three years at Camp Topaz in the Utah desert. This is the same internment camp where the fictional family in Julie Otsuka's novel, *When the Emperor Was Divine* (the MCC Common Book) end up. Kumekawa is now a leading public-planning expert and professor emeritus at the University of Rhode Island where he was director of the Intergovernmental Policy Analysis program. He is also president of the Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund that provides scholarship aid to students from Southeast Asian immigrant families in the United States.

Kumekawa was profoundly affected by both the internment experience and the efforts of Americans of conscience who worked to free Japanese Americans from the camps. He spoke about his personal experiences and the parallels he sees between racial attitudes in this country then, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, and now, after the 9/11 terrorist attacks.



## **Institution Spotlight:**

*Each newsletter, we will spotlight an ASDP college or university and highlight it's activities and events. This edition, we take a look at Belmont University. Thanks to Belmont's Ronnie Littlejohn, Professor of Philosophy, for submitting this. (Editor)*

### **Belmont University, Nashville Tennessee**

#### **Spring 2007**

January 12-14, Belmont University was the host for the 46th Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of Asian Studies, January 12-14, 2007 with 180 scholars in attendance.

March 8-10, David Moser, Assoc. Prof. of Music Business and Ronnie Littlejohn gave papers at the National Meeting of the Asian Studies Development Program in Seattle.

March 22, Belmont hosted a delegation from the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to review our application for a Confucius Institute.

March 30, Belmont joined the Frist Center for Visual Arts in hosting 28 members of the Nashville Chinese community in two Community Response Sessions as part of Belmont's Community Educational Partnership with the Frist Center for Visual Arts for the exhibitions *Lyrical Traditions: Four Centuries of Chinese Painting from the Papp Collection* and *Whispering Wind: Recent Chinese Photography*

#### **Summer 2007**

May 10--31, Sharon Dowdy and Susan Taplin led a group of seven students from Belmont University School of Nursing to Phnom Penh, Cambodia where they worked at the Sihanouk Hospital Center of HOPE for the poor while earning course credit. Students divided their clinical time between the medical and surgical wards, the operating room, the emergency room, the outpatient clinic, home visits to AIDS patients and a hospice for AIDS patients.

Belmont Chorale to China May 2008. The 60 member Belmont University Chorale performed in seven separate concerts in the cities of Beijing, Qingdao, and Nanjing, China along with participating in choral workshops with Chinese students. The Chorale was met with wide acclaim in the local press and was even featured on television.

Japan Belmont's inaugural travel-study program to Japan took place in May 2007. A group of ten students led by Dr. Jonathan Thorndike (Honors) and Dr. John Paine (English and Foreign Languages) met up with a group of 5 students from Michigan State University at the Japan Center for Michigan Universities in Hikone, Shiga Prefecture. The academic theme for the course was "The Modern Samurai: 20th Century Japan." The group spent one week on Hikone, one week in Otsu, and the final week in Tokyo. They also visited Kyoto, Osaka, Hiroshima, Nara, Kamakura, and Yokohama.

Ronnie Littlejohn was chosen as a participant in the Japan Studies Association Freeman Foundation Institute on Japan at Tokai University, May 20-June 9, 2007.

July 12, Ronnie Littlejohn, Chairman, Department of Philosophy and Director, Asian Studies, Belmont University presented, *Becoming Uncarved Wood: Daoist Themes in the Roy and Marilyn Papp Collection* as part of Belmont's Community Educational Partnership with the Frist Center for Visual Arts for the exhibitions *Lyrical Traditions: Four Centuries of Chinese Painting from the Papp Collection* and *Whispering Wind: Recent Chinese Photography*

August 9, Li Qingjun, Associate Professor of Foreign Languages, Zhengzhou University and Doctoral

Teaching Assistant in English, Middle Tennessee State University presented, *What Every Chinese Person Knows: Cultural Literacy in the Lyrical Traditions Exhibition* as part of Belmont's Community Educational Partnership with the Frist Center for Visual Arts for the exhibitions *Lyrical Traditions: Four Centuries of Chinese Painting from the Papp Collection* and *Whispering Wind: Recent Chinese Photography*

August 24, Ronnie Littlejohn moderated a discussion of the film *Ying Xiong "Hero"* at the Frist Visual Arts Center as part of Belmont's Community Educational Partnership with the Frist Center for Visual Arts for the exhibitions *Lyrical Traditions: Four Centuries of Chinese Painting from the Papp Collection* and *Whispering Wind: Recent Chinese Photography*

#### **Fall 2007**

Belmont faculty will act on the curriculum proposal to establish a major and minor in Asian Studies  
David Moser is Visiting Professor for International Music Business and Copyright Law at Lingnan University, Hong Kong

Belmont revives its Japanese language courses with 20 students enrolled in JAP 1010.

September 13, 2007, Corinne Dale, Professor of Literature and Asian Studies, Belmont University presented, *"Hidden Dragons": Chinese Landscape Paintings from the Roy and Marilyn Papp Collection* as part of Belmont's Community Educational Partnership with the Frist Center for Visual Arts for the exhibitions *Lyrical Traditions: Four Centuries of Chinese Painting from the Papp Collection* and *Whispering Wind: Recent Chinese Photography*

#### **Plans for Summer 2008**

May 4--24, 2008 Belmont in Japan study abroad in Kyoto

Sharon Dowdy and Susan Taplin will again lead students from Belmont University School of Nursing to Phnom Penh, Cambodia

Howard Cochran, David Moser, Ronnie Littlejohn, and Li Qingjun will lead students on a study of *Classical and Contemporary China*, Hong Kong, July 5-August 3.

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### **Our Future is Linked to China's**

*This article was submitted by Elizabeth Overman (History) & Patsy Daniels (English) Jackson State University, Jackson, Mississippi. Elizabeth and Patsy co-taught a class this past summer on China which included a field trip. They were in Beijing from July 6 through July 20. The course ran the entire month of July. (Editor)*

To many Americans China's mercurial rise from a bastion of communist socialism to workshop of the world is baffling. To answer this and a myriad of other questions about China's past, present and future, we took seven Jackson State University students to China for 17 days in July. Based in Beijing at the Central University for Nationalities, we learned from *China Daily*, a newspaper recommended by Chinese students, that from the Sino perspective, the cheap goods made in China which flow into U.S. emporiums allow Americans to raise living standards under conditions of low inflation. And further, the Chinese government buys up American debt while American companies are China's biggest source of foreign investment. Clearly the relationship between our two countries is very important for the well being of the people in each. And, just as clearly China has adopted the Western bag of tools and the ideas which go with them.

While we were there *China Daily* also reported that the Chinese economy grew 11.9 % in the second quarter. The average income for urban residents is up 14.2 % while those in rural areas experienced an increase of 13.3 %. There was speculation that China just displaced Germany becoming the third largest economy in the world after the United States and Japan.

Making our way in polluted, overcrowded Beijing, it was clear to us that not everyone has benefited equally from the last 20 years or so of economic liberalization. Crime, begging and prostitution, all of which abated in the 29 years of Mao's reign have returned. The free market also brings wide disparities in wealth which were reflected in the multiple choices of physical transport. Every type of conveyance humans have devised was visible on clogged streets. Public buses, some of which were double decked and air-conditioned, supplement a beautifully modern subway system. Private limousines, Lexus, Mercedes, and thousands of cheaper middle class cars raced along vast boulevards, super highways, and through crowded alley-like streets beside horse drawn carts, cyclists, motorbikes, and rickshaws propelled by people and bicycles, and, of course, taxis everywhere equipped with marvelous adding machines that produced official Beijing "invoice" receipts.

Untold numbers of cranes foretell the appearance of even more corporate office buildings and fashionable modern condominiums. Most people live in drab ten-story apartments. There were also families living in storefronts. Some of the very poorest who are usually also the very oldest reside in "hutongs", the ancient quadrangular courtyard houses stitched together by narrow alleys. High market international stores such as Louis Vuitton and Prada appeared along side the centuries old Silk Road Market and small family run shops and street vendors selling everything from lamb shish kabobs and hearty flat breads, fresh fruit, vegetables and wheat pork filled dumplings to silver bracelets and hand crafted purses.

We found that the changes in China are part of a world wide process going on everywhere. Although the West has influenced modern China, that nation cannot be understood without reference to all the major phases of its long past. Historically China has been largely a self-sufficient civilization. Historians agree that it is the oldest, continuous, homogeneous, major culture in the world today. In this period of hyper globalization, China's future and our future are clearly linked. It behooves both of us to get to know each other and learn to respect one another.

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### **Poems by Kathryn Waddell Takara,**

Kathryn Waddell Takara has a Ph.D. in Political Science and a M.A. in French. She is professor in Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Hawai'i with a focus on Africana Studies: history, race theory, cultural politics, literature, and research on Blacks in Hawai'i history. She has published extensively. She is also a spoken word poet and has published over 150 poems and a book of poetry. Her poetry is inspired by place, nature, philosophical and political/cultural reflections on her experiences growing up in the Jim Crow South, her travels in Zimbabwe and West Africa, summers in China, her studies in France, and almost 40 year residency in Hawai'i. She enjoys teaching, writing, diverse people, Nature and gardening, and her studies in the psychological development of consciousness.

Kathryn was an ASDP participant in 1995 to China. Since then, she have returned 5 times to Beijing and Qingdao, and taught various classes at Chinese universities and written and published many poems, mostly in the USA. In Kathryn's words, "I am attaching my most recent collection in hopes that you will have space to publish a few. I have three collections, but no manuscript published in book form yet, although probably almost 50 poems have been accepted for publication or already published. Because I have my PhD in Political Science, my writing usually has an edge to it, although there are also the reflective, or purely descriptive pieces. I would be interested in presenting some of them as a reading and discussion at a workshop, seminar, or institute. Thank you for any comments, referrals, etc. you may have re: publications and presentations."

### **[Poems](#)**

[Please click]



This is a group photo of the first ASDP three week Summer Institute in 1991.  
A modest prize goes to the person who can identify the most participants.

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### Meet the Newsletter Editors.....

#### ASDP Alumni Newsletter Editor:

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**Next Newsletter:**

Our second ASDP Alumni Newsletter will be published in early April, 2008. Our plan is to include information and articles about:

- individuals who have participated in ASDP programs;
- events and activities occurring at colleges and universities which have participated in ASDP;
- profiles of ASDP Alumni and ASDP Programs at local institutions;
- interviews with members of the ASDP family;
- a calendar of upcoming Asia-related Workshops, Seminars, and Institutes;
- updates on East-West Center Alumni Association news and events;
- other information relevant to ASDP Alumni.

Please send us information and articles that you think are relevant to the interests of Alumni. Mahalo. You will see us again next April.

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