

ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE NEWSLETTER

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Mrs. Wang Retiring

Mrs. Chao-Nan Ho Wang, Lecturer in Chinese, will be retiring from the Department in June of this year after serving the University for fourteen years. A party to honor Mrs. Wang will be held in the Faculty Center on Wednesday, June 6th, from 3:30 to 5:00. All friends and former and present students of Mrs. Wang are invited to attend and to honor her in her retirement.

Some Parting Words

Chao-nan Ho Wang

As I lift my pen and ponder what I want to say to you, dear friends, I am surprisingly bewildered and at a loss for words. I don't know how to express the flow of feelings that wells within my heart—feelings of gratefulness for ever so much, feelings of sorrow at the inevitable goodbye—words seem so inadequate.

I gaze out of my office window here in Gowen Hall; there I see the U. W. quadrangle, Savery Hall on the left, Smith Hall on the right. Straight ahead and a bit further off, the Music and Art buildings proudly stand. Spring is in full splendor now. The cherry trees in the quad have bloomed, and their pink petals everywhere seem to burst from the trees, then flutter slowly to settle on the green carpet of grass. Completing the scene are the students, some rushing to class, their books slung on their backs or held tightly in their arms, other lazily sitting on the lawn, their happy faces soaking up the sun. How often I have gazed at this scene, gazing until I drift right into it, entranced by its idyllic beauty. Thus, the time has passed, spring upon winter, fall upon summer. Fifteen years have gone by seemingly overnight. How could it be easy to say goodbye?

Thinking back on when I first arrived in this then foreign land, all was unfamiliar, so new, so strange. Yet, everyone was so helpful, none too impatient to help show me how things were done. It was this help that allowed me to confidently and happily work here these past years. How can I ever repay your thoughtfulness and kindness?

I remember when Professor Wilhelm retired, I was asked to inscribe a painting the department planned to present as a gift to him. I chose for this picture of distant hills and nearby rivers, upon which a small skiff bobbed, Su Shih's "Immortal at the River"

I long regret I can't master my own body,
Much less come to terms with wordly
problems.
Night advances, a quiet breeze quivers
on ripples.
Now I wish to sail away in my little
skiff,
And high on the waters, live out the rest
of my life.



Chao-nan Ho Wang, Lect.
Chinese Language, Chinese Calligraphy

How could I have known then how well this piece portrays my present mood? For so long, too busy to rest, I have felt like a puppet to my responsibilities. But soon I shall have the freedom that retirement brings, freedom to travel where I may and freedom to do what I have so long had to neglect.

Still, I will miss my friends here in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature. With you I have hiked on Mt. Rainier and boated on Lake Washington. We have shared meals at Werner's European Cafe and China First, as well as sack lunches at our weekly "Mandarin Lunch Table." I shall always hold dear the friendship you have all given me. So you ask what I plan to do after I retire? My answer is that I hope to travel the world and fulfill my childhood dream of seeing the five oceans and setting foot on each of the seven continents. Between my travels I want to continue to write and study. I have seen much in my life, hunger and strife as well as prosperity, and am anxious to record it for future generations. As for study, well, study never ends.

Friendship, too, is never-ending, and though I shall miss my friends here in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, I will cherish the help and encouragement you have given me over the years.

Pease Procures Position

Jonathan Pease, Ph.C. in Chinese in the Department, recently has accepted a position teaching Chinese at Dartmouth College for the next academic year. Congratulations to Jonathan in this new endeavor. Jonathan invites anyone passing through the remote (!) vicinity of Hanover, New Hampshire, to visit him. He wishes to say that "the people in the department here have been warm and pleasant to work with. It will not be easy to leave."

Gift Received

The Department of Asian Languages and Literature has received a generous gift from Professor and Mrs. Nobutaka Ike, of Stanford California. The Ikes made the gift in honor of Professor Henry Tatsumi, Emeritus Professor of Japanese, who retired from this department in 1967. Proceeds from the fund will be used to support students enrolled in any department of the University who use Japanese materials in their work. When the news of this gift was announced, a number of former students of Professor Tatsumi also made gifts to this fund, which will enable us to make awards from it for academic year 1984-85. A committee has been set up to administer the awards and select awardees, and we expect to be able to announce those awards before the end of this academic year. The Department is extremely grateful to the Ike family and other donors who have made gifts to this fund. The Department Development Committee also is working on establishing other fellowship and scholarship opportunities and is hoping to be able to establish a Committee of Friends and Alumni of the Department to increase awareness of and appreciation for our programs and activities.

Tamil Dictionary Award

Professor Harold Schiffman recently has received an award from the Smithsonian Institution for support of his work on an English-Tamil Dictionary. Award monies will be used to support work by his Indian collaborator, Mr. C. Mani, in India, for the next three years. Schiffman also will travel to India in summer 1985 to work with Mani on the project. Work is now essentially complete on the letters A to E. It is hoped that the final version of this dictionary can be photo-composed by computerized laser printers, support for which is being sought from the National Endowment for the Humanities.



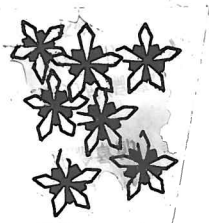
New Appointments

The Department recently has made an appointment to the position of Assistant Professor of Pre-Modern Japanese Literature, which has been vacant for a year. Dr. Edward Kamens, who received his Ph.D. from Yale in 1982, has accepted the position and will be in charge of teaching Classical Japanese and Second-year Japanese. Dr. Kamens was in the department as a Visiting Lecturer in Japanese during the present academic year. His dissertation, The Three Treasures, has recently been accepted for publication by the University of Michigan Papers in Japanese Studies series, published by the Center for Japanese Studies at that institution. The manuscript is an analysis and annotated translation of Samboe, a tenth-century collection of Buddhist tales.

After a national search, the Department has decided to appoint Ms. Stella Chen as Lecturer in Chinese, the position about to be vacated by Ms. Chao-nan Ho Wang, who is retiring at the end of this year. Ms. Chen received her education at Peking University and National Taiwan University and has taught at Princeton, Stanford, Michigan State, and occasionally at the University of Washington. She will be responsible for various levels of Chinese, from first-year to third-year and also will teach in the Intensive Summer Program as she has many times in the past. We extend our hearty welcome to Ms. Chen (who is also known to many as Stella Norman).

Chinese in Bellevue Schools

Jerry Norman has been consulting with the Bellevue school district concerning their application to the Dodge Foundation for a \$40,000 grant to launch the teaching of Chinese at Newport and Sammamish high schools. If the grant application is successful, the school district eventually hopes to offer four years of Chinese at the two high schools.



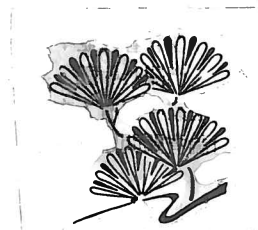
Japanese Program

Joshua Nelson, a graduate student in Japanese language and literature, and Koichi Takezawa, a Teaching Assistant in the Japanese language program, are the 1984 recipients of the Kawabe Scholarships. In a special ceremony conducted during the annual banquet of the Japan-America Society of Washington State attended by the Japanese ambassador to the United States and many state and local officials, Josh addressed the membership of the Society in both Japanese and English as he thanked the Kawabe Foundation for these awards established to encourage both Americans studying Japanese and Japanese students studying in any field at the University of Washington.

The Japanese language program, together with the Consulate-General of Japan and the Japan-American Society of Washington State, has received a grant from the Japan Foundation to hold a Japanese Speech Contest in Gowen Hall this May 19. Twenty-five contestants from all over the Northwest and with varying commands of the language will give short talks on topics of their own choosing and compete for prizes ranging from dictionaries to a Japanese-English personal computer. Judges will rank participants on the basis of both content and delivery, and will include John Treat of Asian Languages, Consul-General Isogai, and others from the Japanese and academic communities. The program is tentatively scheduled to begin at ten in the morning and the public is invited.

Jay Rubin

Jay Rubin has published a book with the University of Washington Press: INJURIOUS TO PUBLIC MORALS: WRITERS AND THE MEIJI STATE. Professor Rubin also has been promoted to full professor. We offer our warm congratulations to him on both of these accomplishments.



Jack Hawley

Jack Hawley has lectured this spring at the University of California, Berkeley; Reed College; South Seattle Community College; and the University of California, Davis. At the Association for Asian Studies he presented a paper entitled "The Shaping of Vision in the Poems of Brindavan," and at the Western Region of the American Academy of Religion he served as a reviewer of Linda Hess' The Bijak of Kabir. Two articles will appear in print this spring: "The Thief in Krishna" in Parabola, and "The Music in Faith and Morality" in the Journal of the American Academy of Religion. Hawley has been redesigning the format for entries in the area of Religion for The Bibliography of Asian Studies. We also offer our congratulations to Professor Hawley upon his recent promotion to full professor.

Richard Salomon

Professor Salomon has published articles in the following journals: Acta Orientalia (Copenhagen), Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde Sudasiens, Journal of the Bihar Research Society, Studies in Dharmasāstra (ed. Richard Lariviere), and Dineśacandrikā (D. C. Sircar Felicitation Volume). He has articles forthcoming in: Wiener Zeitschrift für die Kunde Sudasiens, Journal of the International Association of Buddhist Studies, Indo-Iranian Journal, and Studien zur Indologie und Iranistik.

David R. Knechtges

Professor Knechtges presented a paper at the Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society, held in Seattle, March 25-28. His paper, "Hunting with Decoy and Blind: Pan Yue's 'Rhapsody on Pheasant Shooting'," was part of a panel of Early Medieval Chinese literature. Two recent Ph.D.'s of this department, Joseph Allen (Washington University, St. Louis), and Robert Joe Cutter (University of Wisconsin), were on the same panel. He also recently completed a long article, "A Literary Feast: Food in Early Chinese Literature," which will appear in a 1985 issue of the Journal of the American Oriental Society.

Professor Knechtges and his wife, Chang Tai-ping, are preparing to leave on a twenty-three day trip to China. They depart June 8 to lead a University of Washington Continuing Education abroad tour, which will visit Shanghai, Hangzhou, Suzhou, the Grand Canal, Wuxi, Nanjing, Beijing, Xi'an, Kunming, Guilin, and Guangzhou. After the tour, they plan to visit Hong Kong and Taiwan. Photos in next issue.

Anne Yue-Hashimoto

Professor Hashimoto has published two articles: "The Differences between the Literary and the Vernacular Readings in the Sui-hsi Dialect," Bulletin of the Institute of History and Philology, Academia Sinica, Vol. LIII (in memory of the late Dr. Yuen Ren Chao), Part II; "The Relation between Terminal Plosives and Tones--An Example from the Leizhou Dialect," Yuyan yanjiu (Linguistic Research), Vol. IV.

The manuscript of her book, The Suixi Dialect of Leizhou: A Study of Its Phonological, Lexical and Syntactic Structures, has been formally accepted for publication by the Chinese Language Research Centre of the Institute of Chinese Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. She received a grant from the Graduate School Research Fund for the technical preparation of the manuscript for publication, and at present Ms. Marjorie C. White, a graduate student in the Department of Linguistics, is helping her in this respect.

In December 1983 she was awarded an NEH Fellowship for Independent Study and Research to undertake a descriptive-comparative study of four little-known southwestern Chinese dialects. She will be taking leave of absence during the coming autumn and winter quarters to carry out the work, which is part of her long-range research in the Southern Chinese dialects, especially in association with aboriginal non-Sinitic languages and in the perspective of re-examining the traditional criteria for the classification of the Chinese dialects.



Michael C. Shapiro

Professor Shapiro reports that his Primer of Modern Standard Hindi has finally made it to the publisher (Motilal Banarsidass) and should see the light of day soon. He has fully recovered from leading a University of Washington tour to India over the Christmas recess (see attached photo). In addition to teaching the usual Hindi course, he is currently teaching Panjabi to a class of semi-willing victims. **ATTRACTION:** Next Winter, he will be offering a new course, ASIAN 402 (Problems in Asian Linguistics), that will be a continuation of ASIAN 401 (Introduction to Asian Linguistics).



Hungarian Tibetology Meeting

Professor Turrell V. Wylie led an invited delegation of three faculty members from this department at a conference held April 17-18, 1984, at Indiana University (Bloomington), in honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Hungarian pioneer Tibetologist Csoma de Kőrösi. The conference, sponsored by the Inner Asian and Uralic National Resource Center at Indiana University, and also by the Hungarian Chair in the Department of Uralic and Altaic Studies (recently established and endowed at Indiana University by the Academy of Sciences of the Hungarian People's Republic), was entitled "Beginning a Third Century of Tibetan Studies."

Professor Wylie's paper was entitled "Notes on Csoma de Kőrös' Translation of a Tibetan Passport." In it he reviewed a transcription and translation published by Csoma in 1833 of a Tibetan passport dated in correspondence with A.D. 1688, pointing out the many false readings of the original publication, along with a large number of incorrect translations in the 1833 version by Csoma.

Also attending the conference from this department were Professor D. Seyfort Ruegg, who read a paper on "Buddhism and Vajrayāna in Western Tibet in the Eleventh Century," and Professor Roy Andrew Miller, whose paper entitled "Text Structure and Rule Ordering in the First Tibetan Grammatical Treatise," concerned itself with linguistic-descriptive techniques in the Sum-cu-pa, an early grammatical text attributed to Thon-ni Sambhoṭa. Also at the three-day conference were scholars invited from France, Japan, Canada, and Norway; the University of Washington delegation was the only one to include more than a single representative from any one university. His Excellency the Hungarian Ambassador to Washington also participated in several of the sessions of the conference, which served as a preliminary to the world-wide celebration of the Csoma bicentenary scheduled to be held in Hungary in September, 1984.

Editor: David R. Knechtges

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