

## ASIAN LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE NEWSLETTER

May 1985 Volume 3, Number 1 University of Washington Seattle, Washington 98195

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### Buddhist Studies Position

During the last two years, the Buddhist studies position has been vacant. The Department has been able to invite several visitors (Gregory Schopen in 1984-85, Christian Lindtner in 1985-86) to teach Buddhist studies courses, while a search was being conducted for a replacement. The search finally has been completed. Dr. Collett Cox, currently teaching at Notre Dame University, has been appointed as Assistant Professor of Buddhist Studies to begin in Autumn 1985. Dr. Cox received her Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1983, and works in Indian, Chinese, and Japanese Buddhism. She will teach courses in Buddhist studies, Pali, Sanskrit, and comparative religion.

### Japanese Literature Position

The position in pre-modern Japanese literature has become vacant through the resignation of Professor Edward Kamens. A search has been authorized and advertisements sent out for a replacement to be hired for the academic year 1986-87.

### Language and Area Centers

The Department's programs in South and East Asian languages again have received national recognition through the awarding of Language and Area Centers (East Asian and South Asia) by the U.S. Department of Education.



### Faculty Honors

Professors John S. Hawley (Hindi) and David R. Knechtges (Chinese) have both received grants from the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation for the academic year 1985-86. Professor Hawley's award is to continue work on the Medieval Hindi epic poem Sur Sagar. Professor Hawley also has received support from the National Endowment for the Humanities for support of his translation of this poem. Professor Knechtges will be writing a history of Chinese literary genres, from the Han through the Six Dynasties (3rd century B.C. to A.D. 7th century). He likewise has received NEH support to supplement the Guggenheim. Five Guggenheim awards were received by University of Washington faculty this year, and two of them came to this department!

Professor Anne Yue-Hashimoto received an NEH grant for 1984-85 (Autumn and Winter) to do research on four Southwestern Chinese dialects. She also received a Graduate School Research Fund award for summer 1985 for refining this study for publication.

Professor Jay Rubin has received an NEH award for 1985-86. Rubin plans to be on leave during the next academic year doing a study and translation of Natsume Sōseki's 1908 novel Kōfu (The Miner).

Dr. Carol Salomon (Research Associate in this department) has received an NEH grant to do research on Bengali literature.

Professor Harold Schiffman's NEH grant, which supports the compilation of an English-Tamil dictionary, continues through 1986. So far he has completed data entry for English verbs through E, and has succeeded in compelling his IBM 5550 computer to print in Tamil as well as in English. He also has been awarded a Graduate School Research Fund award for a Research Assistantship for 1985-86 to support this project.

Professors William Boltz (Chinese) and Richard Salomon (Sanskrit) were awarded Arts and Humanities Professorships from the Graduate School for Spring Quarter 1985.

Professor Boltz is completing research on the origin and early history of the Chinese writing system. The work will show that the Chinese script originated and developed in its formative stages in a way exactly parallel to that of writing in the ancient Near East and in Egypt. When properly understood it is clear that Chinese writing is different from Western alphabetic scripts not in kind, but only in degree, and that many of the features of the script that have led people in the past to look upon it as either quaint or exotic, are in fact perfectly explicable in ways consistent with the principles of writing that can be seen to operate in all other scripts in the world. One of the fundamental theses of this research is that writing in China, like writing elsewhere in the world, represents speech, nothing more and nothing less.

Professor Salomon's award was to support the completion of a volume on epigraphy in the Indo-Aryan languages for the new Grundriss der Indo-Arischen Philologie und Alterstumkunde (Encyclopedia of Indo-Aryan Research). The original Grundriss was published between 1896 and 1935, and a project is now underway to put out a revised and expanded version that will serve as a general reference source for scholars interested in all fields of Indology.

Professor Michael Shapiro has been informed that he will be awarded a similar professorship for Spring 1986. His project is to continue work on a history of Hindi. Phase one is for work on the history of Hindi phonology, from early Apabramsha to the modern language.

Dr. Taiping Chang (Lecturer and Research Associate in the Department) has received a grant from the Kuo-li pien-i kuan (National Editing and Translation Office) in Taiwan to support a translation into Chinese of the late Dr. K. C. Hsiao's A Modern China and a New World, K'ang Yu-wei, Reformer and Utopian, 1858-1927.

Professors Jerry Norman (Chinese) and Roy Andrew Miller (Japanese) have been granted professional leave for Autumn and Spring quarters, 1985-86 (respectively). Professor Norman will spend six months in China as a guest of Peking University. In addition to carrying out research on Chinese dialect classification, he will be giving a series of lectures on his work on Min dialects. Professor Norman's visit will be supported by Peking University and a grant from the Committee on Scholarly Communication with the People's Republic of China.

Professor Miller recently has been elected Vice-President of the American Oriental Society.

### Tenure Decisions

Professors Anne Yue-Hashimoto (Chinese) and Richard Salomon (Sanskrit) have been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, to begin 1985-86.

### Computerization

The Department applied for and received the loan of a Japanese built IBM Computer (IBM 5550) with 85 megabytes of hard-disk memory. The machine is capable of operating in Japanese, Korean, and Chinese with software available from IBM Japan, but only Japanese software has been supplied as of this writing. We are using the machine to generate other fonts (Tamil, Hindi, Thai, Tibetan) and have requested the Chinese and Korean software from IBM. The Japanese teaching program, with an Undergraduate Enrichment grant from the Office of Instructional Computation, is developing the Japanese Word-processing program for instructional use. All teaching materials for Japanese (quizzes, homework assignments, tests, etc.) will eventually be put on diskettes. They can then be revised and reprinted easily and duplicated for student use. Faculty in Hindi, Thai, Tibetan and Tamil are using the facility to generate fonts for those languages (Tamil is already available) so the word-processing capability for those languages will eventually exist. The English-Tamil dictionary project, funded by NEH, is using the facility for font generation, printing in English and Tamil, and various sorts and cross checks for preparation of the dictionary entries.

### Meetings and Conferences

Professors Michael Shapiro and Harold Schiffman attended annual meetings of the Association for Asian Studies in Washington D.C. (March 1984) and Philadelphia (March 1985). Many members of the department were involved in hosting the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society, held in Seattle in April 1984. Professors Michael Shapiro and William Boltz were members of the organizing committee, and most members of the Department attended various sessions and presented papers. The Department hosted a cocktail party in the Faculty Center, which was then followed by a keynote address by Professor Denis Sinor.

Professors Richard Salomon, Michael Shapiro, and Harold Schiffman attended the annual conference of the South Asian Languages Roundtable held at the University of Texas, Austin, June 1984, and presented papers. Professor Schiffman organized and chaired a panel on "Impact of Recent Theoretical Developments in Linguistics on South Asian Languages," and delivered a paper in this panel on "Variability in the Tamil Case System."

### Asian Linguistics Program

There have been some new additions to the Department curriculum in Asian Linguistics, a program of the Department that offers both M.A. and Ph.D. degrees. Students in this program work in a particular language area (e.g., Chinese), but concentrate in Linguistics rather than on literature (although one field must be in literature). Professor Shapiro recently has proposed a new course for this sequence, Asian 404. Professor Schiffman also has proposed a new joint course in Sociolinguistics, to be offered by the Linguistics Department and Asian Languages. This course, which is still being processed by the College Curriculum Committee, will concentrate on the sociolinguistic complexity of Asian languages--their dialects, complicated "polite language," differences in men's and women's speech, and other related phenomena.

### Nicholas Poppe

Last June Professor Nicholas Poppe participated in the 27th meeting of the Permanent International Altaistic Conference, held in Walberberg, near Cologne. His paper on "Ordainment of a Buryat Shamaness" will be published in the proceedings of the conference. In October 1984 the British Mongolia Society invited Professor Poppe to Cambridge for its annual meeting. While in Cambridge, he advised members of the Society and scholars at Cambridge University, interested in Altaic Studies. In 1984, Professor Poppe published articles in Symposium Saeculare Societas Fenno-Ugricae ("The Uralic and Altaic Affinity"), Acta Orientalia Hungarica ("On Some Mongolian Adverbs of Turkic Origin"), and Documenta Barbarorum, a Festschrift in honor of W. Heissig ("Zum Motiv der dankbaren Tiere in der mongolischen Volksdichtung"). Professor Poppe also has finished a translation into German of eight Kalmuck epic songs, belonging to the Jangar cycle. This work is about to appear in a special volume of the Asiatische Forschungen (Wiesbaden). Professor Poppe, who will be celebrating his 88th birthday on August 8, 1985, is working on several articles and reviews. He also is contemplating writing a book on Mongolian epics.

### Visiting Scholars

Professor Hu Mingyang, chairman of the Department of Chinese at Renmin daxue in Peking, visited the Department for several days in April. Professor Hu, who is an authority on the Peking dialect, lectured to members of the Department on April 22. His topic was "Research on the Peking Dialect." On April 23, he delivered a lecture to the Department of Linguistics on Chinese grammar.

Professor Edwin G. Pulleyblank of the University of British Columbia presented a lecture on "The Indo-European Connection" on May 21. Professor Pulleyblank's lecture was under the auspices of the Chinese Linguistics Circle of the Pacific Northwest, an informal organization of professors and graduate students from the University of Washington and the University of British Columbia.



### Roy Andrew Miller

Professor Roy Andrew Miller recently participated in the Second International Conference on Non-Slavic Languages of the Soviet Union, hosted by the Center for Slavic and Balkan Studies at the University of Chicago, where he read a paper on the original geographical distribution of the Tungus languages, which will appear in the Proceedings to be published by the Conference; in addition to the contributions of American scholars, papers were given by visitors from Canada, England, West Germany, and Israel. Earlier this year Professor Miller participated in a Symposium on Tibetan and Buddhist Studies commemorating the 200th anniversary of the birth of Alexander Csoma de Kőrös, held at Visegrad, Hungary, where he read a paper on linguistic devices and techniques in the second Tibetan grammatical treatise, the rTags kyi hjug pa, which has been accepted for publication in the Symposium volume to be published by the Hungarian Academy of Sciences. His paper on related problems on the first Tibetan grammatical treatise, the Sum cu pa, appeared in Bibliotheca Orientalis Hungarica, vol. 34:2, published by the Hungarian Academy as part of the same 200th anniversary celebrations. A paper that Professor Miller presented at the Department's Linguistic Colloquium in October has been accepted for publication in vol. 58 of the Ural-Altäische Jahrbücher (Bloomington), under the title "Altaic Evidence for Prehistoric Incursions of Japan." A related work, "Proto-Altaic \*jä," has been accepted for publication in the Ural-Altäische Jahrbücher (Wiesbaden), in that journal's vol. 5. His paper, "The First Statement of Lyman's Law," appeared in the Bochum Jahrbuch zur Ostasienforschung, Bd. 7 (1984); "Yamanoe Okura, A Korean Poet in Eighth-Century Japan," in the Journal of the American Oriental Society 104 (1984); and "I.-E. \*ser-p-'sickle, hook' in Altaic," in Altaistic Studies, ed. by G. Jarring and S. Rosén (Stockholm, 1985).



Professor Miller's paper on the "The Original Language of Japanese Buddhism," read at the Permanent International Altaicist Conference that met at Walberberg, West Germany in July 1984, has been accepted for publication in a volume to be edited by Dr. Klaus Sagaster (Bonn), and further studies on Lyman's Law (which governed the appearance or deletion of intervocalic consonantal voicing in Old Japanese) are now in the press for Vol. 2, no. 2, of the journal Diachronica, edited by Dr. Konra Koerner at the University of Ottawa. His most recent published article is "Altaic Connections of the Old Japanese Negatives" in the Central Asiatic Journal 29 (1985).

### Noburu Hiraga (1922-84)

The Japanese language and literature program suffered a major loss last spring with the death of Mr. Noburu Hiraga, Lecturer in Japanese at the University since 1961, who died of cancer on June 23 at the age of sixty-one. Not only was Mr. Hiraga the central resource person on campus for kanbun and other forms of literary Japanese, he also was a delightful colleague with a genuine interest in the research of other faculty members, a dedicated teacher of linguistic and bibliographical skills, and an active scholar and translator. Concerning Mr. Hiraga's most recent scholarly activity, Professor Marius Jansen of Princeton University has written: "We collaborated in a team translation of a modern classic of Japanese History. Noburu's share was the largest, and, as always, it was done with meticulous fidelity and care. It is a source of endless regret that he did not live to see the product, which is now in press at Princeton."

Mr. Hiraga's dedication to education was particularly conspicuous in his family life, and he was justifiably proud of the academic and musical accomplishments of his four children. Amy, a graduate of the Juilliard School in New York, offered a spirited performance of Sarasate's "Zigeunerweisen" at the memorial service held for her father at the Seattle Buddhist Church on June 25. The piece had been requested by Mr. Hiraga himself and was a moving expression of his positive attitude toward scholarship, culture, and life, in general.

Jay Rubin  
Professor of Japanese

**Turrell V. Wylie (1927-1984)**

Turrell V. Wylie, Professor of Tibetan Studies in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, died on August 25, 1984, after a brief illness. His untimely passing has not only deprived the University of Washington of the leadership of its program in Tibetan studies, it has also meant a major loss for Tibetan and Buddhist studies both in America and throughout the world.

Terry (to use the affectionate version of his name by which he was always known) was associated with the University of Washington for most of his adult life. After taking a B.A. here, he went on to a Ph.D. in Chinese, meanwhile also beginning the study of Tibetan language and literature that was to become his principal scholarly field. Studying with G. Tucci in Rome, Terry soon became one of the very few American scholars in the field whose training combined solid linguistic preparation with a rigorous command of text-oriented philological discipline. His many notable publications in such areas as Tibetan historical geography and the early history of institutionalized Buddhism in Tibet set new standards for Western studies of Tibetan, as did his many years of devoted teaching at the University of Washington, where he was never too busy with his own work to help a student with a text. Terry was able to present his last completed scientific paper, a comprehensive text-critical study and translation of the Tibetan passport first edited by Csoma de Kőrös, at an international conference on Tibetan and Buddhist studies held in Bloomington in March 1984. Even at the time of those meetings, his illness had already made serious inroads, but few of those participating realized how much it cost him in physical courage to come to Indiana and present his paper. The same fortitude, and concern above everything else for the feelings of others, characterized him throughout his final difficult days.

Administration also claimed much of Terry's time and energy. After the Chinese invasion of Tibet and the subsequent Tibetan national uprising of 1959, Terry became deeply involved in the work in the international relief undertaken by the Rockefeller Foundation, attending a number of the international conferences that devised ways in which to assist the Tibetan refugees. He travelled widely in northern India in order to locate a number of Tibetan religious and scholarly leaders whom he was eventually able to bring back with him to Seattle; here, under Terry's unflagging energetic leadership, they not only formed the nucleus of Seattle's still thriving Tibetan community, but also sparked a notably vigorous period in Tibetan and Central Asian studies at the University of Washington, where many of them were employed as teachers and research scholars for a number of years.

Terry's warm personal rapport with the Tibetans whom he met in India, and particularly with the members of the diaspora community that he helped bring to Seattle, grew out of his own awareness of the universality of human dignity, and his profound understanding of the meaning of life. In a recollection of Terry that Jigmie Yuthok offered at a Memorial Service at the University of Washington on October 9, 1984, and speaking on behalf of the Seattle Tibetan Community, he characterized Terry in the following words:

"As a scholar in the truest sense of the word, whose life-long research in the histories of Tibet and China led him to discern fact from fiction, he stood up for the truth of Tibet's independent status and spoke out at every opportunity even in the face of overwhelming opposition from numerous vested interest groups. He was not the one to compromise anything for the Truth. To the Tibetans here in particular, he was a great teacher, a mentor, a patron, and an affectionate brother whose kindness and generosity had nurtured the first batch of Tibetans that he brought to Seattle in 1960 to grow into a thriving little community that it is today."

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"As a friend he was the most forgiving, affectionate and caring person that I have ever met in my life. Even after minor disagreements and disappointments he was the one to forgive first, he was the one to offer encouragement, and he was the one to care for the health and welfare of all his friends. As a scholar his life was a success story, defined not in the terms of name and fame, wealth and power, but rather of richness of experience and depth of character in the search for Truth and Knowledge."

Still other indications of the high regard in which his beloved Tibetans held Terry is the name that the Dalai Lama bestowed upon him in an audience held in Dharmasala in 1960, Bkra-shis-bsam-'phel, a name that is now inscribed on the stone that marks Terry's grave in his native Durango, Colorado. His Holiness also took the extraordinary step of sending a personal message of condolence to Terry's family and friends, through Tenzin Tethong, his representative in New York, in the following cable:

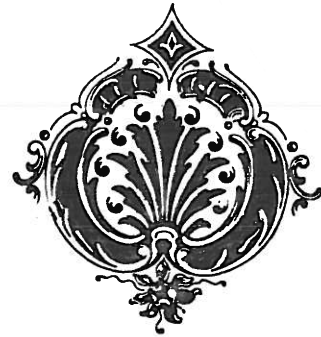
"To the bereaved family members and those gathered at the memorial services for the late Dr. Turrell Wylie his Holiness the Dalai Lama conveys his sincere condolences. Dr. Wylie's strong and genuine feelings for the Tibetan people and their just cause will long remain deeply appreciated. In the death of Dr. Wylie we have lost a true friend and a distinguished scholar of Tibetan studies. His Holiness further offers his deepest prayers."

Nor shall those of us present at the simple, private service of commitment held in Seattle before Terry's remains were taken to Durango, ever forget the enormously touching sight of the many Tibetans who attended reverently and prayerfully advancing towards his coffin to adorn it with khatags, as one last expression of their love, affection, and respect.

Those of us privileged to have known Terry not only as a scholar and as a colleague but also as a friend will never forget his unfailing good humor, his devotion to his beloved wife and family, and the wide range of the extra-academic gifts and interests that distinguished and enriched his life. From his student days in Rome he gained an enviable fluency in demotic Italian that several subsequent visits to Italy enhanced and perfected; from his days in Italy too came his deep affection for painting and sculpture, as did his discriminating tastes in food and wine. He took great pleasure in sharing his knowledge of the world of Italian culture and art with visitors to Rome; I fondly recall him showing me the two magnificent Caravaggio altarpieces in the Cerasi Chapel of Santa Maria del Popolo with as much pride and enthusiasm as if he had been their owner. Himself a talented amateur painter in oils and sculptor in wood and stone, he found in the plastic arts not only the enjoyment of passive contemplation, but the rewards of active creativity as well.

Everyone everywhere who ever met Terry Wylie could not help but immediately become his friend; and everyone who met him, anywhere in the world, always loved him. This, perhaps his greatest gift of all, only makes it all the more difficult to cope with the loss we have sustained.

Roy Andrew Miller  
Professor of Japanese





## Development

A memorial fund in the name of Professor Turrell V. Wylie, who died in August 1984, has been established. An appeal has been sent out to various potential donors. To date approximately \$6,000 has been raised and a wider appeal is planned.

Work has begun on a departmental brochure, with a logo designed by Professor Foster in the School of Art. Help from the Graduate School and the College has been promised to develop a recruitment brochure.

The Tatsumi Fund for the study of Japanese has begun to generate income, and awards to students for the 1985-86 academic year will probably be made sometime next year when enough income has been earned to make several awards. It is planned to invite Professor and Mrs. Nobutaka Ike, the original donors of the Tatsumi Fund, as well as Professor and Mrs. Henry Tatsumi, to be present at the first presentation of the Tatsumi awards.



Editor: David R. Knechtges

Printed at the Ba-Shu tang