

Asia Notes

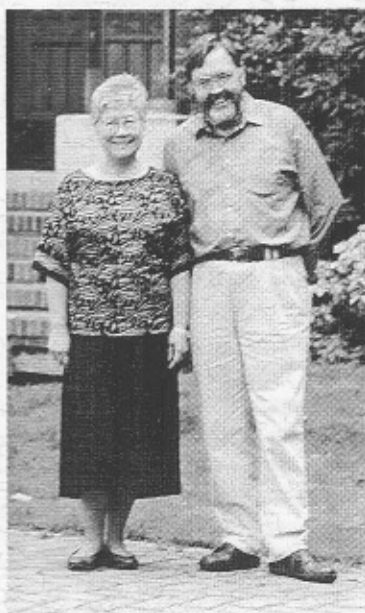
Newsletter from the
Department of Asian Languages and Literature
at the University of Washington
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“A Trip to Fujian”

Professor Jerry Norman and Senior Lecturer Stella Chen Norman spent approximately seven weeks in China in June and July, 1994. Their trip took them first to Beijing, where they lived at the Central University of Nationalities. Professor Norman read a paper to the Dialectology section of the Institute of Linguistics on negation in the Jianyang dialect of Fujian. Professor and Mrs. Norman also took part in an excursion to Ji county north of Beijing. For both of the Normans it was a first opportunity to spend time in a rural area of North China. From Beijing, the Normans flew to Fuzhou before proceeding to the northwestern part of the province, where Professor Norman planned to do fieldwork on Chinese dialects. They went by train to Shaowu, on whose dialect Professor Norman had earlier conducted research while living in Taiwan. After several days in Shaowu, Professor and Mrs. Norman went to the small town of Heping, then back to Shaowu, and then by jeep to Pucheng in the northern part of the province. Several divergent dialects are spoken in Pucheng county and Professor Norman worked on two of them. After about ten days in Pucheng, he and Mrs. Norman went to Zhenghe, where Professor Norman worked on the dialect of the mountain town of Zhenqian. After their stay in Fujian, the Normans returned to Beijing via Fuzhou. Returning to Seattle, Professor and Mrs. Norman wrote an account of their travels:



Stella and Jerry Norman.

✦ *Jerry Norman writes:*

We flew from Seattle to Beijing in the middle of June. After spending a few days in Beijing we flew to Fuzhou where we were met by Qu Hongliang of the Fujian Academy of Social Sciences. We had to wait a few days in Fuzhou before proceeding to our first destination in the northwestern part of the province because of extensive flooding. Our first stop was in Shaowu, an old city on the banks of the Futun river. Shaowu is not far from Jiangxi and its dialect, though clearly a variety of Min, seems to be influenced in some ways by Jiangxi forms of speech. In Shaowu we stayed at a new government-run hotel which in most ways was quite comfortable. It was sad to observe that the city dialect of Shaowu was rapidly giving way to Putonghua. In

another generation it will probably be spoken only by a few old people. From Shaowu we went to the small town of Heping, about an hour's drive away. Here the local dialect seems much more vital. I worked with an elderly retired farmer who came early every morning and again in the afternoon. We took our meals with the local government functionaries; at lunch and dinner enormous quantities of unrefrigerated local beer were consumed. Everywhere, entertaining guests seems to be a convenient pretext to indulge in a lot of drinking. After completing work in Heping, we returned to Shaowu and from there we went on to Pucheng in the northern part of the province.

All of northwestern Fujian is very mountainous; the isolation of most communities in small mountain valleys has undoubtedly been one of the factors leading to the extreme linguistic fragmentation of the region. Every village has its own dialect and crossing a mountain often means crossing into a very different dialect area. At present almost everyone can speak Putonghua (the national standard) and everywhere one sees signs that use of the local dialect is declining. This gives one a sense of urgency about recording the speech of this region.

Pucheng has historically been the gateway to Fujian from the north. The dialect of the county seat is very different from that of most of the rest of the northwest region. In Pucheng we stayed at the government hostel where I also

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Michael C. Shapiro, Chairman.

From the Chair

It is no secret that the past year has been a difficult and stressful one at the University of Washington. Budget cuts, program eliminations, and the prospect of drastic cutbacks in the federal funding for higher education have contributed to a climate of apprehension about the future. As the University inaugurates its new President, Richard L. McCormick, this September, it is clear that it will be facing as difficult a financial situation as it has had to confront in the past quarter century. But in spite of these all-too-real difficulties, the Department has enjoyed its share of successes this past year. It is extremely fortunate to have been able to appoint new faculty, including Motoo Kobayashi, Assistant Professor of Japanese literature, and Kaoru Ohta and Amy Ohta, Assistant Professors of Japanese language and linguistics (see Additions to Faculty, p. 8). The addition of the Ohtas will give the Department added expertise in the field of East Asian language pedagogy as well as of Japanese linguistics. The Department has enjoyed long-term visits from distinguished scholars of Asian languages, including Sung-II Lee of Yonsei University, Albrecht Wezler of the University of Hamburg, Jin-guo Feng of Shandong University, and Faxiang Zhou of the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. These

visiting scholars enriched the intellectual life of the Department by their presence. Distinguished scholars will continue their valuable contributions to the Department this coming academic year when Asian Languages and Literature hosts Azad N. Shamatov of the Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies, who will be at the University of Washington as a Fulbright Scholar.

"...in spite of these all-too-real difficulties, the Department has enjoyed its share of successes this past year."

The Department's successes have not been limited to visitors and new appointments. Over fifty students earned degrees on the B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. levels from the Department this past year (see Cap & Gown '95, p. 4). Its alumni continue to enjoy distinguished careers in academia and business (Student Activities, p. 9). And its faculty is actively engaged in research, teaching and service (Program Notes, p. 6). This year's list of publications is impressive (Publications, p. 7), with John W. Treat's *Writing Ground Zero: Japanese Literature and the Atomic Bomb* attracting much notice and critical acclaim. In the area of instruction the Department has implemented a new sequence, targeted for lower division undergraduates, on Asian literatures in English translation (Developments in Undergraduate Education, p. 8). In addition, it has established minors in Chinese, Japanese, and South Asian languages.

There have, regrettably, been losses in the Department. Two retired professors from our faculty, Richard McKinnon, Professor of Japanese in the Department for better than a quarter century, and Doo Soo Suh, Professor of Korean until approximately 1976, passed on. They will be remembered fondly. Two other professors resigned to pursue other career

opportunities. Harold F. Schiffman, on the faculty since 1967, Professor of Tamil, will assume the position of Director of the Language Center at the University of Pennsylvania. Leonard van der Kuijp, Associate Professor of Tibetan and recent recipient of the prestigious MacCarthy Award, has accepted an endowed professorship at Harvard University. Ms. Ann Kotas, Instructor in Japanese, will be leaving the University of Washington along with her husband, Dr. Fred Kotas, to relocate to the Ithaca, New York, area, where Dr. Kotas has accepted a position as Japanese bibliographer in the Cornell University East Asia library collection. Dr. Song-Chul Kim, Instructor in Korean, will be returning to Korea, where he has accepted a researcher position in private industry. And lastly, Ms. Linda Ward, Department Secretary, has resigned to relocate to the San Francisco area. All of these colleagues have the good wishes of the Department as they take up their new assignments.

There is much more going on in the Department than I have mentioned in my brief Chairman's remarks. I hope that you are able to get a sense of the range of the Department's activities by reading through this newsletter. The Department has much of which it can be proud. The financial storm clouds looming overhead need not distract the Department and its friends from a much-deserved sense of accomplishment this past year. ☛

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did fieldwork. I worked with two informants, one for the Pucheng city dialect and another from an area south of the city where the dialect is of the usual Minbei (northwestern Fujian) type. This dialect is centered on the town of Shibei and has been the subject of some controversy in recent years. Pucheng seems much more isolated than Shaowu (Shaowu is on the main rail line from Fuzhou to Shanghai and Beijing). One can still see many traditional objects in the local market. One item that especially caught our attention was a large scissors-like tool; when we asked what it was used for, we were told that it was used for catching loach (a kind of small fish) in rice fields.

❖ *Stella Norman continues the narrative:*

When we left Pucheng on our way to our next destination, they were rebuilding the two-lane highway. They had dug up the entire road and had replaced it with a layer of gravel. Our jeep bumped along as if it were traveling on a dry river bed. We felt like our bones were torn apart until we arrived in the neighboring county several hours later. As we climbed over one mountain ridge, the driver told us that the area used to harbor bandits. Once over the mountains we saw some buildings and rice fields surrounded by low hills. This was our destination, Zhenghe, our fifth stop in Fujian. It is a small poor county, almost cut off from the rest of the world. Again we stayed at the county government hostel. Every county has such a hostel for guests along with extensive dining halls having many large and small rooms and a large dining hall downstairs. When people come from other areas on business or for meetings, the local officials hold big dinner parties. They do this even for people like us. So we were invited to a big dinner with eight or ten local officials. That's why we had snake

soup four times in five weeks. In Zhenghe they served eel soup. Three whole fat eels were coiled in a big bowl with their heads sticking out and mouths open. We also had frogs from mountain streams and snails from rice fields along with some local vegetables.

The foreign affairs officer was supposed to find Jerry an informant from the village of Zhenqian but was unable to find a good one. Jerry couldn't go there to work because there was no suitable place to stay. Jerry felt very depressed because he had come all this way for a week's stay; what was he going to do if he couldn't find an informant? Our new friend, Mr. Xiong, borrowed a mini-van and a driver from the county. He told Jerry that he could work there for at least a few hours and that would be better than sitting around the hostel doing nothing. We drove up into the mountains. Each mountain seemed higher than the last one and I was a bit worried that the van couldn't make it. The scenery was so beautiful, like something in a national park. I don't think I could describe it even in Chinese. While I was enjoying the mountains, the rocks and the streams, Jerry was worried about his work. Suddenly he had a good idea. He asked Mr. Xiong if we could find an informant in Zhenqian and bring him or her back to Zhenghe. We would pay all the expenses in the hostel. As soon as we arrived at the village, Mr. Xiong talked to the local officials, asking if they could find an informant for Jerry. They said it might take a while. Meanwhile, a local official accompanied Mr. Xiong and us to a famous local site, Carp Creek. Zhenqian is about 3,000 feet above sea level and it was at least ten or fifteen degrees cooler than in the county seat. Villagers appeared from everywhere to have a look at the "bearded foreign devil." In Zhenqian carp are considered sacred so the villagers never take

them from the creek that flows through the village. As a result they grow to immense sizes. They seem to live together peacefully with a flock of white geese. Along the side of the creek children were playing and women were washing clothes. When we walked up close, we saw hundreds of enormous carp, some a yard long. I had never seen such large carp anywhere.

"In Zhenghe they served eel soup. Three whole fat eels were coiled in a big bowl with their heads sticking out and mouths open."

From there we went to the local guest house for lunch. The menu included a large number of dishes, including eel soup and rabbit meat. Our host drank too much beer. We went back to the village office but they still hadn't found an informant. The village mayor welcomed Jerry, saying he hoped he would invest in a local enterprise and that we ought to work together to develop the economies of China and the United States. He also drank too much. Then we went to a nearby tea plantation. It was so quiet you could hear birds singing from the woods far away. The air was clean and the local tea delicious. The plantation manager gave us a large bag of tea leaves which we are still enjoying. When we got back to the village office, they had found an informant, Mr. Ma, a retired farmer. We asked him if he would be willing to come back to Zhenghe for a few days to work with Jerry. He was actually quite happy to have a chance to spend a few days in town where he had relatives and friends.

After finishing our work in Zhenghe, we returned to Fuzhou and within a few days to Beijing. Our daughters Grace and Anne had just returned to Beijing from a month-long trip to Xinjiang where they had many adventures. We returned to Seattle on July 31st, along with Grace. ❖

Cap & Gown

On the afternoon of May 31, 1995, the Department of Asian Languages and Literature observed its second "Graduation and Awards Ceremony" in the lovely rotunda of Parrington Hall. The ceremony opened with welcoming words by the Chair, Professor Michael C. Shapiro, who commented that this celebration of the Department's graduates, while informal, is nevertheless of the utmost significance in recognizing the important contribution of our



Dr. Carrie Reed and family.

students to the field of Asian studies. Professor Shapiro noted, moreover, that beyond the College of Arts and Sciences, the Department of Asian Languages and Literature provides language instruction to students majoring in disciplines as diverse as law, medicine, and engineering. He also commented enthusiastically on the new series of Asian literature courses in English translation now offered by the Department (see Undergraduate Education, p. 8) and praised the hard work of Professor Alan Entwistle in helping to bring these courses into existence.

Highlighting the ceremony was the presentation of awards. These awards included the following: the Turrell V. Wylie Memorial Scholarship offered this year to

Mr. Timothy Lenz, a precandidate in South Asian Languages and Literature; the Department Book Award, offered to Mr. Charles Cox, an undergraduate student majoring in Chinese language and literature and in Electrical Engineering; the Henry S. Tatsumi Scholarship, presented by Mitsuko Hasegawa, Lecturer in Japanese, to Ms. Stacey Holmes (first-year graduate student in Japan Studies, the Jackson School of International Studies), Ms. Rebecca Morley (undergraduate majoring in Japanese language and literature and in Physics), and Mr. Stephen Snyder (first-year graduate student in Japanese language and literature).

Students honored at this year's ceremony included thirty-four earning baccalaureate degrees, including nineteen in Japanese, fourteen in Chinese, and one in South Asian Languages and Literature, as follows: Ms. Margaret Banin (Japanese), Mr. Bruce Boston (Japanese), Ms. Linda Chan (Chinese), Mr. Hsiao Chi Chang (Japanese), Mr. Kenneth Q. K. Chau (Chinese), Ms. Leigh Chow (Chinese), Mr. Mark Christianson (Chinese), Mr. Andrew Clark (Japanese), Mr. Neil Gregory (Japanese), Ms. Linda Howard (Japanese), Ms. Alice Ikeda (Japanese), Mr. Bradley Kadet (Japanese), Mr. Joon

Edward Kang (Japanese), Ms. Mimi Wai Ko (Chinese), Ms. Kelly Nhoc Kun (Chinese), Ms. Trinh Khiet Kwan (Chinese), Ms. Janice Lee (Japanese), Mr. Lubo Lukacovic (South Asian), Ms. Binh Ly (Chinese), Ms. Maggie Mar (Chinese), Mr. Michael Mills (Japanese), Ms. Gaylynn Nakamatsu (Japanese), Ms. Margaret Nakayama (Japanese), Ms. Sandra Perry (Chinese), Mr. Sterling Reasor (Japanese), Mr. Michael Rupp (Chinese), Ms. Pamela Singleton (Japanese), Ms. Linda Uyeda (Japanese), Mr. Sky Whitehead (Japanese), Ms. Amy Wildman (Japanese), Mr. David Williams (Chinese), Mr. David Wong (Chinese), Ms. Lisa Yamamoto (Japanese), Mr. Jason Yew-Mun Yu (Chinese).

Five students earned Master of Arts degrees: Mr. Ramiro Casañas (Chinese), Mr. Jeffrey Crosland (Chinese), Ms. Lynn Hsu Lee (Chinese), Ms. Anne Murphy (Hindi), and Ms. Karin Randlett (Chinese).

Students achieving the status of Candidate were: Mr. Stuart Aque (Chinese), Mr. Keith Dede (Chinese), Mr. Woo-Kwang Jung (Chinese), Ms. Christine Marran (Japanese), Mr. Douglas Slaymaker (Japanese), Mr. Cyrus Stearns (South Asian).



From left to right. Staff members Linda Ward, Marivic Rigor, Lauren Hussey and Youngie Yoon.

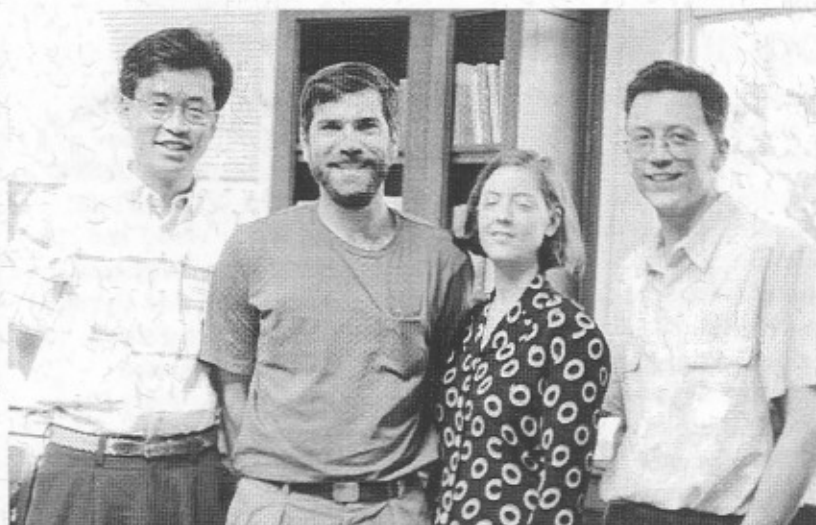
Five students earned the Doctor of Philosophy, namely: Mr. James (Jakob) Dempsey, Chinese (Adviser Jerry Norman), thesis title, "A Reconsideration of Some Phonological Issues Involved in Reconstructing Sino-Tibetan Numerals"; Mr. Ablahat Ibrahim, Chinese (Adviser Ilse Cirtautas), thesis title, "Meaning and Usage of Compound Verbs in Uighur and Uzbek"; Ms. Rebecca Manring, South Asian (Adviser Richard Salomon), thesis title, "Sacred Biography in the Formations of Religious Community: Advaitācārya and the Genesis of Gauḍīya Vaiṣṇavism"; Ms. Carrie Reed, Chinese (Adviser David Knechtges), thesis title, "*Yōuyāng zázǔ*: Miscellaneous Morsels from Youyang"; Mr. Matthew Strecher, Japanese (Adviser John Treat), thesis title, "Hidden Texts and Nostalgic Images: the Serious Social Critique of Murakami Haruki".

Master of ceremonies in honoring students who earned Masters or Doctoral degrees, or who achieved Candidacy status, was Asian Languages and Literature's Graduate Program



Mr. Tim Lenz accepting his award from Chair Michael Shapiro.

Coordinator, Professor Andrew L. Markus. Professor Markus captivated his audience with his thespian projection and solemn comments. Apprising the awardees of the dignity of the scholarly



The Ph.C. candidates Mr. Woo-Kwang Jung, Mr. Keith Dede, Ms. Christine Marran and Mr. Douglas Slaymaker.

levels they have attained, he noted that the Master of Arts degree "betokens a high level of expertise in a particular field. Those who receive the Master of Arts degree in Asian Languages have proved a true scholarly ability to delve deeply into a single subject. And at the same time, they have demonstrated a broad mastery of a large area of Asian civilization." He added that the doctoral candidate "has advanced beyond the stage of master of arts. He or she has taken courses at the highest level of specialization and difficulty. While laying the groundwork for a dissertation, the student in addition has worked closely with faculty members, and passed demanding examinations in four separate fields of specialization. Most importantly, the doctoral candidate has declared his or her internal willingness to pursue a life of scholarship, and has made the strong resolve to accept a life rich in rewards, but also rife in trials, all for the sake of knowledge . . ." Finally, he noted that "the recipient of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy has advanced to the highest level of academic achievement. To borrow the metaphor of the *Liji*, he or she has polished innate talent to the highest possible luster. The Doctor of Philosophy has demon-

strated erudition—but at the same time, has shown the heartfelt desire to convey that erudition to others, through the composition of a doctoral dissertation. The dissertation is not merely a monument to intellectual achievement, but is concrete testimony to the student's courage, sacrifice, and years of perseverance against what must sometimes appear as indomitable odds."

At the completion of Professor Markus' remarks, all adjourned for light refreshments.



Keith Dede, Christine Marran and Woo-Kwang Jung.

Program Notes

Professor **Alan Entwistle** will be on leave for the academic year 1995-96, most of the time in India. Armed with video and audio recording equipment, he will be continuing a project begun in 1994 to record folk performers in the Braj region. His aim is to transcribe and translate works of folk literature and document styles of performance. He will also spend about three months traveling extensively around India in order to document varieties of forehead markings with a view to revising and expanding a monograph that was published a decade ago.

Professor **Richard Salomon** spent the month of July in London studying a newly discovered collection of early Buddhist manuscripts. His research was funded by the University of Washington's Royalty Research Fund. The manuscripts in question are written in the Kharosthi script and the Gandhari (Prakrit) language on scrolls of birch bark. They appear to date from about the First or Second century A.D., which places them among the earliest stratum of extant Buddhist manuscript texts, and they are much more extensive than any previously known texts of this period. The collection comprises fragments of various size of about twenty different texts of diverse contents. During his stay in England Professor Salomon also attended the Thirteenth Conference of the European Association of South Asian Archaeologists in Cambridge.

An Educational Forum on Tibet held Spring, 1995, at Sakya Monastery of Tibetan Buddhism in Seattle featured presentations by, among others, faculty and graduate students of the Department of Asian Languages and Literature:

Professor **Leonard van der Kuijp**, "Tibetan Lamas and Mongol Khans in Yuan China," Professor **Collett Cox**, "The 'Original' Buddhism," Dr. **Jeffrey Schoening**, "The Wheel of Life: The Tibetan World View," and "Dependent Arising, Emptiness, and the Heart Sutra," Mr. **Cyrus Stearns** (Doctoral Candidate), "The Life of Sachen Kunga Nyingpo," Ms. **Abby Petty Li**, (M.A.), "Guru Devotion."

John W. Treat was promoted to the rank of Professor, effective Autumn, 1995.

In May Professor **William Boltz** spoke on "The Craft of Empire and the Arts of Virtue" at a lecture series sponsored by the Center for the Humanities.

Mr. **David Branner**, Doctoral Candidate in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, announces the next meeting of the (annual) Yuen Ren Society for the Promotion of Chinese Dialect Data Conference on Fresh Dialects Data, scheduled for March, 1996. The meeting will be in conjunction with the 206th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in Philadelphia. Mr. Branner states that it will be "an open panel discussion of a number of original reports on Chinese dialects, all of which will appear in the next issue of the Society's journal, the *Treasury*. Submissions will be accepted until September 24, 1995, and decisions made known by mid-October." More detailed information is available from the Society. Interested persons may write by email to:

yuenren@u.washington.edu, or by regular mail to: The Yuen Ren Society, Department of Asian Languages and Literature, Box 353521, Seattle, WA 98195, attention: Mr. David Branner. Information is also available via the World Wide Web. A list of

suggestions for possible submissions is available at:

<http://weber.u.washington.edu/yuenren/Suggestions.html>; a style sheet at:

<http://weber.u.washington.edu/yuenren/Style-Sheet.html>; and general information about the Society at:


<http://weber.u.washington.edu/yuenren/Circular.html>.



World Wide Web

Readers who are familiar with the World Wide Web know that it makes a vast amount of information available to interested users. That information now includes news about Asian Languages and Literature, including listings of faculty and staff, contact persons and administrative appointments, degree requirements, summer classes, and special offerings. The Department is very excited to be able to make this information available by World Wide Web. This format makes it much more convenient for many current and prospective students from around the world to get information regarding the activities of the Department. Web developers may link information related to their interests from many sources. Many users will find our departmental web page through its link from the University of Washington home page:

<http://www.washington.edu/>; others may find it linked from a variety of other sources such as the Chinese Language Related Information Page. Internetters may also go directly to our page by using the Uniform Resource Locator (URL), or address, for our page:

<http://weber.w.washington.edu/~asianll/>. 



Holmes, Stephen Snyder and Rebecca Morley with Lecturer Mitsuko Hasegawa.

New Graduate Students 1994/95 & 1995/96

New graduate students who entered the Department Autumn quarter, 1994, were: Ms. Natalie Gummer (South Asian), University of Toronto, Mr. William Burton (Japanese), transferring from (UW) Comparative Literature, Ms. Pamela Lothspeich (South Asian), University of Iowa, Mr. Timothy Miller (Chinese), Brown University, and Mr. Christopher Dakin (Chinese), University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Expected to enter this coming year are: Ms. Valerie Ritter (South Asian), Pitzer College, Claremont, California, Mr. David Williams (Chinese), University of Washington, Mr. Wu Yeow-chong (Chinese), National University of Singapore, and Ms. Deborah Shamoon (Japanese), University of Michigan. ❀



Publications



The past year has witnessed the publication of important works by AL&L faculty. **John Whittier Treat's** *Writing Ground Zero: Japanese Literature and the Atomic Bomb* (University of Chicago Press, 1995) is described by its publisher as being the "first complete study of the nuclear theme in Japanese intellectual and artistic life," and a study in which its author "shows how much we have to learn from Japanese writers and artists about the substance and meaning of the nuclear age." A highly favorable review of Professor Treat's book by Ian Buruma appeared in the September 21, 1995 issue of *The New York Review of Books*. Professor Treat is also the editor of another recent publication, *Contemporary Japan and Popular Culture* (Curzon Press, in press), an interdisciplinary collection of essays by Asian, American and European scholars which takes up both the newer and traditional debates in cultural theory while relating the study of the popular to the rhetoric that specifically surrounds the issue of a Japanese national identity in the age of globalization.

Frederick Brandauer is the editor, with Chun-chieh Huang, of *Imperial Rulership and Cultural Change in Traditional China* (University of Washington Press, 1994).

UW faculty contributors to this volume are Brandauer ("The Emperor and the Star Spirits: A Mythological Reading of the Shui-hu chuan)," **David R. Knechtges** ("The Emperor and Literature: Emperor Wu of the Han)," **R. Kent Guy** ("Imperial Powers and the Appointment of Provincial Governors in Ch'ing China, 1700-1900)," and the late **Jack Dull** ("Determining Orthodoxy: Imperial Roles). The various essays in this volume deal with topics on Chinese history, literature, religion and philosophy, from the third century B.C. to the turn of the twentieth century.

Sorting out the complexities of the early history of Chinese writing is the focus of **William G. Boltz's** "The Origin and Early Development of the Chinese Writing System" (American Oriental Society monograph series, vol. 78, 1994). A profile on the research carried out by Boltz and AL&L's Professor **Richard Salomon** on ancient Asian writing systems appeared in the Autumn 1994 issue of the College of Arts and Sciences' newsletter *Perspectives*. The International Institute for Buddhist Studies has published **Collett Cox's** *Disputed Dharmas: Early Buddhist Theories on Existence* (Studia Philologica Buddhica, Monograph Series X, 1995). ❀

Developments in Undergraduate Education

The past academic year (1994-95) saw some significant developments in the Department's undergraduate education program: the introduction of minors, a new series of courses on Asian literature in translation, and a mentoring system. We are hoping that these innovations will stimulate interest in Asian studies in a wide cross-section of the undergraduate population, and facilitate the graduation process for students registered with the Department. Starting in the Winter Quarter, 1995, the Department launched a series of six courses on Asian literature in translation. One such course will be offered each quarter, beginning with Chinese literature in the Autumn, followed by Japanese literature in the Winter, and South Asian in the Spring. These courses are designed to appeal to the undergraduate population at large, to fulfill the writing requirement, and to stimulate interest in and appreciation of Asian cultures. They will present works of literature with reference to their historical and cultural context and, in alternate years, will deal with the ancient and modern periods respectively. The series is as follows: ASIAN 201: *Literature and Culture of Ancient and Classical China*; ASIAN 202: *Literature and Culture of Japan: Traditional Japan*; ASIAN 203: *Literature and Culture of India: Ancient and Classical*; ASIAN 204: *Literature and Culture of China: From Tradition to Modernity*; ASIAN 205: *Literature and Culture of Japan: From Tradition to Modernity*; ASIAN 206: *Literature and Culture of South Asia: From Tradition to Modernity*.

To meet the needs of students who wish to pursue study of an Asian language, and gain some recognition for their efforts, but who do not plan a career in the field, the Department recently introduced undergraduate minors in Chinese, Japanese, and South Asian languages. Each minor consists of 30 credits, at least half of which should be in language at or above the third-year level. The minors should be of particular interest for students of subjects such as international studies, political science, anthropology, comparative literature, or history, who want to study an appreciable amount of language without going as far as a double major. Full details of the requirements for the minors can be obtained from the departmental advising office. The Department is also introducing an optional system of mentoring whereby an undergraduate major may be assigned a mentor in his or her field of interest from among the faculty, a concept received with great enthusiasm by undergraduates.

The Department of Asian Languages and Literature welcomes three new faculty in Japanese: Professor Motoo Kobayashi, whose research and teaching interests include modern and contemporary Japanese literature, literary theory and criticism, comparative literature, and popular culture and literature, began teaching in the Department Autumn, 1994. Professor Kobayashi received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from the University of Washington (1988 and 1994, respectively). Between 1992 and 1994 Professor Kobayashi taught several courses at Lewis and Clark College, including "An Introduction to Japanese Literature in Translation," "Readings in Japanese Literature," and First- through Third-Year Japanese.

Professor Amy Snyder Ohta will begin to teach Japanese language, linguistics, and language pedagogy in the Department

Additions to Faculty



Professor Motoo Kobayashi.

Autumn, 1995. Professor Ohta, a graduate of Wheaton College, received her M.A. and Ph.D. in applied linguistics from UCLA in 1990 and 1993, respectively. Her dissertation is entitled "Activity, Affect and Stance: Sentential Particles in the Discourse of the

Japanese as a Foreign Language Classroom." Prior to accepting the position at the University of Washington, Dr. Ohta taught at California State University at Los Angeles.

Professor Kaoru Ohta, a B.A. and M.A. graduate of Meiji Gakuin University, received his Ph.D. in linguistics from UCLA in 1994. His dissertation is entitled "Verbal Nouns in Japanese: A Recategorization Approach." Professor Ohta's research and teaching interests include generative grammar, comparative syntax, morphology and syntax, tense and aspect theory; and in applied linguistics: language pedagogy, materials development, and use of computers in language teaching. The Ohtas (who, by the way, are married to one another) have collaborated in several pedagogical publications, including *Japanese in Pairs: Daily Activities (1994)*, *Homework and Activities for Learn Japanese, Volumes I - III (1993)*. ☐

Student Activities

❖ Innocents Abroad ❖

Mr. Keith Dede (Ph.C.) will spend 1995/96 in Qinghai funded by the Committee on Scholarly Communication with China fellowship. **Ms. Mary Hirsch** will spend the upcoming academic year at the Inter-University Program in Taiwan. **Mr. Jason Neelis** has a grant from the American Institute of Pakistan Studies to study early South Asian inscriptions in Pakistan next year. **Ms. Christine Marran** (Ph.C.) received a grant for dissertation research from the Japan Foundation and will spend next year studying dokufu, the figure of the Poison Woman in modern Japanese literature, and to a lesser extent in theatre and film. **Mr. Timothy Lenz** will visit the India Office Library in London to collect information on his dissertation topic, Mount Abu, a Jaina pilgrimage site in the Aravalli Mountain Range of Southern Rajasthan. The India Office Library has a noteworthy collection of papers and photographs concerning British activities on Mount Abu during the Nineteenth Century. **Mr. Kurtis Schaeffer** is in Kathmandu, Nepal, researching the life and works of the Eleventh Century Buddhist scholar Maitripa (alias Advayavajra). Nepal offers several resources for scholarly investigation of Maitripa, including the Nepalese-German Manuscript Preservation Project located at the Nepal Research Center in Kathmandu, the Kaiser Library in Kathmandu, several modern-day Newari scholars who have done work on Maitripa, at least one of whom (Min Bahadur Shakya) Mr. Schaeffer intends to meet, and many Tibetan teachers and scholars currently living in Nepal, including members of the Kagyu School (Chokyi Nyima Rinpoche, Thrangun Rinpoche, Khenpo Tsultrim Gyatso) which carries on a tradition of Maitripa's teachings.

❖ Careers ❖

Dr. Carrie Reed will teach Chinese at Middlebury College next year; **Dr. Matthew Strecher**, Japanese at the University of Montana; **Dr. Rebecca Manning** has accepted an adjunct faculty position with Antioch College's Buddhist Studies Abroad Program and will be teaching Hindi and the history of South Asian Buddhism in Bodh Gaya beginning Autumn, 1995.

❖ Appointments ❖

Every Autumn quarter new GPSS representatives and senators are elected to serve for the year. Last year's Graduate and Professional Student Senate senators were **Mr. William Burton** (Japanese) and **Mr. Adam Ross** (Chinese); representatives were **Ms. Rachel DiNitto** (Japanese) and **Ms. Amy McGhee** (Chinese).

The annual Asian Languages and Literature Graduate Student Colloquium took place on Saturday, April 22, 1995. Participants included **Ms. Rachel DiNitto**, "Farce or Parody? Saito Ryokû, A Man Out of Time"; **James Dorsey**, "Ironic to Absolutist Discourse: an Interpretation of Modern Japanese Intellectual History"; **Mark Asselin**, "Reading Cai Yong's 'Qingyi Fu'"; **Douglas Slaymaker**, "This Mass of Meiji"; **Christine Marran**, "Love Suicide Media in the Genroku Period"; **Lanita Grice**, "Oh Those Notorious Jiangs!—Bad Girls of the Springs and Autumns Era". Keynote speaker, Professor **Christopher Brockett**, delivered remarks on "Neurologically Based Word Recognition Systems: Towards a Parallel Distributed Processing Model for Reading Japanese." After the presentation, the group retired to a nearby restaurant for lunch. ❖

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