

Asia Notes

Newsletter from the
Department of Asian Languages and Literature
at the University of Washington



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1996-97

A WEEK IN ANCIENT GANDHARA by Richard Salomon

In connection with my recent research trip to Pakistan, I was fortunate enough to have the opportunity to spend a week in January travelling in Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province with our graduate student Jason Neelis, who is spending the year in Pakistan doing doctoral research on the ancient inscriptions of the valley of Hunza in far northern Pakistan. Like many before us, Jason and I have long been fascinated by the ancient culture of the region known in classical times as Gandhara, the land between the Khyber Pass and the Indus River. Throughout history Gandhara has served as the gateway to India and the cultural and ethnic melting pot of Asia, and from about the first century B.C. through the third century A.D. it was one of the great cosmopolitan cultures of the ancient world.

Our first stop was the ancient city of Peshawar, gateway to the northwest and Afghanistan, a city with a reputation as a rough-and-tumble center of smuggling and intrigue. Here we spent the better part of two days in the Peshawar Museum examining its renowned collection of Gandharan art and other artifacts, with the indispensable assistance of Jason's flashlight, since the Museum is much better endowed with sculptures and inscriptions than with light-bulbs. The other high point of our stay in Peshawar was a day spent with Abdur Rahman, an archaeology professor from Peshawar University, touring the most important archaeological sites in the area. His expert and intimate knowledge

of these places made the trip a particularly rewarding one. Jason and I particularly enjoyed our stop at Shahbazgarhi, site of one of the sets of the thirteen moral edicts inscribed by the great Buddhist emperor Ashoka. We were pleased to find that the inscriptions were better preserved than published reproductions had led us to expect, and we had a field day picking out famous passages on the boulders.

We also visited, among other places, Lahaur, now an ordinary northwest village but one with a distinguished past. This village, known in Sanskrit as Shalatura, is believed to have been the birthplace of the great grammarian Panini.

From Lahaur, we flew north to Saidu Sharif/Mingora, the main urban area of the Swat Valley. This idyllic and fertile valley, nestled between the high peaks of the Hindu Kush, has earned a well-deserved reputation in Buddhist tradition as a physical and spiritual paradise on earth, and has held a particular fascination for travellers throughout history. On our first full day in Swat, Jason and I set out on foot for the short walk to the nearby stupa (Buddhist relic mound) of Butkara, which had been excavated by an Italian archaeological team in the late 1950s and early 1960s. Among the many points of interest here are the five successive stages of construction which are clearly visible in the unreconstructed ruins of the great stupa. The earliest stage, represented by the relatively small central core, goes back to the third century B.C. and may well be one of the stupas which,

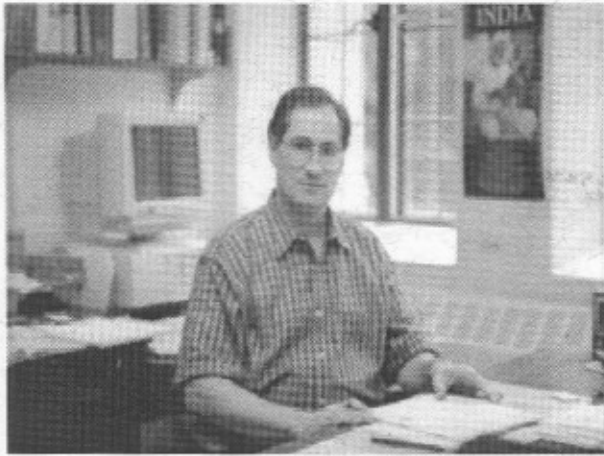
according to legend, Ashoka built around India in order to spread the Buddhist dharma. Successive reconstructions and expansions continued until the fifth century A.D., when the Gandharan Buddhist monasteries were destroyed in the invasion of the Huns.

From Butkara we took a scenic walk over the dry bed of the Jambil River, then along the edge of a low cliff along the river, through a deep ravine and finally up the hillside to the monastery ruins of Panr. Though lacking in the imposing size of the large complexes like Butkara and less well preserved than many of them, Panr nonetheless has a charm of its own, provided by its picturesque situation on a gently sloping hillside, and by its two small stupas, one looking down over the other. A point of special archaeological interest is the nearly complete set of large stone disks, now lying by the side of the lower stupa, which had once constituted

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Michael C. Shapiro, Chairman.

From the Chair

This past year has been one that has seen many transitions in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, some sad and others offering bright prospects of things to come. The year has seen the all too premature deaths of two Asian Languages and Literature faculty members, Andrew L. Markus and Alan W. Entwistle. Both of these were established and productive scholars, first-rate teachers, thoughtful colleagues, and good friends to many in the Department. It is hard to imagine the Department without them.

On the positive side, the Department is very pleased indeed that it has made new faculty appointments in three important areas. This autumn Dr. Ann Sung-hi Lee will be leaving U.S.C. to join the Department as Assistant Professor of Korean. At the same time Ms. Izumi Matsuda, previously at Michigan State University, will be taking up the position of Lecturer in Japanese. And lastly, Dr. Georges B.J. Dreyfus, currently at Williams College, has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Buddhist Studies and Tibetan, beginning in September, 1997. I very much look forward to welcoming these new colleagues into our Department.

Although there are many important research projects that are carried out by Asian Languages and Literature faculty

and graduate students, there is a project taking place in the Department that is a particular source of pride. This past spring it was announced that two Asian Languages and Literature faculty members, Collett Cox and Richard Salomon, will be heading a project, conducted jointly by the University of Washington and the

British Library, to decipher, translate, and interpret an extraordinary set of birch bark Buddhist manuscripts newly given to the British Library. These manuscripts, probably dating from the first century A.D., are believed to be the oldest surviving Buddhist manuscripts extant anywhere in the world. Two Asian Languages and Literature graduate students will also be involved in this exciting project.

There is one other development that I would be quite amiss not to mention here. After the death in October of Andrew L. Markus, the parents of Professor Markus, Lawrence and Lois Markus, generously came forward to sponsor several activities in memory of their late son. This past May, a one day academic memorial symposium took place (see story, page 6) that was devoted to pre-modern Japanese

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Assoc. Prof. Andrew L. Markus

In Memory of Andrew L. Markus and Alan W. Entwistle

Andrew Markus was born in New Haven, Connecticut, in 1954, and educated as a child in both American and European schools. In 1975, pursuing a lifelong interest in Asia from the eastern Mediterranean to the Pacific, he graduated *summa cum laude* from Harvard College with a degree in East Asian Languages and Civilizations. After attending Keio University in Tokyo, where he studied with Prof. Hinotani Teruhiko, one of Japan's leading scholars of Tokugawa-period (1603-1867) literature, Professor Markus earned his doctorate at Yale University in 1985 with a dissertation on the life and career of the early nineteenth-century novelist Ryutei Tanehiko. In 1986 he left the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Kansas to join the faculty at the University of Washington, where he attained the rank of Assoc. Professor with tenure in 1992, the same year that a revised version of his doctoral thesis was published under the title *The Willow in Autumn* by the Council on East Asian Studies, Harvard University Press.

Alan W. Entwistle, Associate Professor of Hindi, died on March 28, 1996, after suffering from a brain tumor for almost a decade. Professor Entwistle, who was a world-renowned scholar of Hinduism and of medieval Hindi devotional texts, was born in Weymouth, England, on March

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Assoc. Prof. Alan W. Entwistle.

Gandhara

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the decorative "umbrellas" stacked on a shaft atop the drum of the stupa. On some of them, Jason and I were able to locate single letters of the Kharoshthi script that was prevalent in ancient Gandhara, incised by the masons in order to indicate to the builders the correct locations of the disks.

Upon our arrival at Saidu Sharif airport, we had met up with a taxi driver, Irfan Uddin, who was to become our main guide for the rest of our time in Swat. Irfan soon became a fast friend who showed us the famous Pathan hospitality. Just as reliable as Irfan himself was his 1979 Datsun sedan, now in its second life after having done long service as a taxi in England before being reconditioned and shipped to Pakistan. Many was the time over the next four days that Jason and I held our breath as we roared over sharp rocks and jounced through the deep ruts of deserted back-country roads

in search of yet another stupa, but Irfan never hesitated about setting out on the most intimidating jeep tracks. "*Meri gari mazbut hai, jeep ka kam karti hai*" ("My car is strong, it works like a jeep"), he explained, and despite our fears his faith was fully justified; we never had a moment's trouble.

The high point of our second day's travel with Irfan was the stupa and monastery complex named after the nearby shrine of the Muslim saint Abba Saheb China, tucked high up in the slopes of the mountains on the eastern edge of the valley along one of the innumerable tributary streams feeding into the Swat River. The ruins there include the usual central stupa, in which

were interred the bodily relics of the Buddha, as well as a monastic residence and a hall of assembly. What struck us most here, as at many other of the stupa sites we visited in Swat, was the awesome beauty of the location. Nestled on the slopes of the mountainside, the view in one direction showed the snow-capped peaks just about us, and to the other a panorama of the forested foothills, the stream, and the fertile plains of the valley below. The air was crisp and bracing, the silence broken only by the occasional scream of a hawk overhead, or the echo of a little shepherd calling to his flocks far below. In such idyllic surroundings, it is not at all difficult to imagine, and even to partake of the spirit



Prof. Abdur Rahman, Prof. Richard Salomon, Mr. Jason Neelis at the Ashoka Rock, Shahbazgarhi.

of peaceful contemplation that reigned in this place when it was new, nearly two thousand years ago.

On our way back that evening we stopped briefly at Birkot, a massive rock overlooking the Swat River which has always been the strategic key to military control of the fertile valley. Birkot was the site of a critical battle during Alexander the Great's campaign through Bajaur and Swat, and his victory there opened the door to what he imagined would be his victorious march through India. As luck would have it, greater India was not fated to become part of the Hellenistic world

that was Alexander's legacy, but the northwest did absorb a significant component of Greek culture into its cultural mosaic, and it seems appropriate that excavations at Birkot have recently brought to light the only Greek inscription found in the Indian subcontinent.

On our last day we went out stupa-hunting once again. Our last and most dramatic stupa was at Amluk Dara, nearby the Abba Saheb China stupa we had visited previously. After driving as far as possible up a side valley until the road ended at Amluk Dara village, we had a climb of about a mile along the small river that runs down the hillside and through the village. The rivulet and its banks are strewn with huge round boulders, which make for rough walking but also for a charming pastoral scene. The stupa itself, in the shadows of Mt. Ilam, Swat's tallest peak, was nothing less than spectacular. It is built upon a huge circular plinth, above which it rises some sixty

feet. Lying at the foot of the plinth we found a colossal umbrella-disk, some twelve feet in diameter. Like most of the other stupas, little more than the bare stone structure survives, although here and there some portions of the original moldings and decorations remain. But with a little imagination, we could picture how it must have looked in its heyday, with the stonework covered with gleaming white plaster and painted over with scenes of Buddhist piety and legend, all shining in the glow of the afternoon sun.

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Back row: P. Schwabland, D. Bensky, W. Burton, D. Bhowmik, J. Dorsey, C. Stearns. Front row: D.X. Warner, N. Hines, M. Hoshide.

Cap & Gown

The Department's annual Graduation and Awards Ceremony took place this year in the Music Room of the Faculty Club on June 6. Professor Michael Shapiro, Chair, welcomed the approximately sixty students and faculty who attended the ceremony, pointing out the importance of students majoring in Asian languages and culture in the overall scheme of academic contributions to the community in which we all live.

Undergraduates receiving Bachelors of Arts degrees in the various programs of the Department were then introduced by Professors Motoo Kobayashi, Jerry Norman, and Shapiro. Bachelors of Art in **Japanese** were: Mr. Lee Andrus, Ms. Min Back, Mr. Nels Benson, Ms. Andrea Beyer, Mr. Ryan Bray, Mr. Roy Burkholder, Mr. Rahiem Burrell, Ms. Berlinda Carey, Ms. Jeehya Sunny Cha, Ms. Yong-A Chong, Ms. Tamra Hayashida, Ms. Christina Hayes, Ms. Sudarat Hofbauer, Ms. Diane Kitano, Mr. Robert Lehne, Ms. Mei-Chun Liao,

Ms. Willette Lowe, Ms. Jennifer Mills, Mr. Benjamin Motonaga, Mr. Donald Ryan, Ms. Nancy Ryan, Mr. Kenneth Schrag, Mr. Dustin Sutton, Mr. Russell Wasden, Ms. Lisa Yamamoto, Ms. Susan Yang, Ms. Kelly Yi, and Mr. Joseph

Yoshitake. Bachelors of Art in **Chinese** were Mr. Ronald Atley, Ms. Alisa Chang, Mr. Shinn Chen, Ms. Cameron Crump, Ms. Caitlin Duong, Ms. Anita Lee, Mr. Peter Lee, Mr. Joseph Lo, Ms. Anne Norman, Mr. Joshua Patcoff, Mr. Aaron Reid, Ms. Julie Su, Ms. Diane Sum, Mr. Daniel Tull, and Ms. Jewel Vuong. Mr. Loren Carpenter and Mr. Mark Roberts received Bachelor of Arts degrees in **Korean**. Ms. Aparna Chitnis received her Bachelor of Arts in **Sanskrit**.

Introducing Asian Languages and Literature graduates who had earned Masters of Arts degrees was Professor William Boltz, the Department's Graduate Program Coordinator. These graduates include **Mr. Daniel Bensky** (Chinese), **Mr. William Burton** (Japanese), **Ms. May Hoshide** (Japanese), **Ms. Bing Jiang** (Chinese), **Ms. Pamela Lothspeich** (Hindi), **Mr. Kurtis Schaeffer** (Buddhist studies), and **Ms. Vicki Shinneman** (Chinese). Following these introductions, Professor Boltz welcomed and congratulated six students who have entered into candidacy for the Doctoral degree, namely, **Ms. Davinder Bhowmik** (Japanese), **Mr. James Dorsey** (Japanese), **Ms. Naseem Hines** (Hindi), **Mr. Jason Neelis** (Sanskrit), **Mr. Peter Schwabland** (Buddhist studies), and **Mr.**



Tatsumi awardee Joseph Heitzeberg and Ms. Mitsuko Hasegawa.

Ravinder Singh (Hindi).

Finally, Professor Boltz acknowledged the accomplishments of four students who either have completed all requirements for the Ph.D. degree or who are expected to complete these requirements by the end of the summer.

Arienne Dwyer. Advisor: Jerry Norman.

Topic: Salar Phonology.

Cyrus Stearns. Advisor: Leonard van der Kuijp.

Topic: The Buddha from Dol po and His Fourth Council of the Buddhist Doctrine.

Ding Xiang Warner. Advisor: David Knechtges.

Topic: Wang Ji and the Idealization of the Recluse.

Zhiqiang Yu. Advisor: Jerry Norman.

Topic: The Wu Dialects As a Problem in Classification.

After the recognition of students who earned various degrees in the Department, several departmental awards and honors were bestowed to meritorious students.

The first of these was the **Departmental Book Award**, which was presented by Professor Amy Ohta to **Ms.**



Book awardee Mrs. Karen Ballard and Prof. Amy Snyder Ohta.



Wylie awardee Ramiro Casañas and Prof. William Boltz.

Karen Ballard, a honors B.A. graduate in Japanese. Next, the **Henry M. Tatsumi Award** was presented by Ms. Mitsuko Hasegawa to **Mr. Stanley Crow, Jr.** (who was unable to attend) and **Mr. Joseph Heitzeberg.** Lastly, Professor Boltz presented the **Turrell V. Wylie Award**, given in memory of the first chairman of the Department of Asian

Languages and Literature, to **Mr. Ramiro Casañas**, a Ph.D. student in Chinese linguistics.

Following these introductions and presentations, the guests participated in a sumptuous repast of salmon, fresh fruits and veggies, cheese, crackers and punch. The event was a great pleasure to attend, and certainly a worthy undertaking guaranteed to inspire pride in the Department and its graduates. ❀

Gandhara

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Finally, our time in Swat was up, and the bus trip back to our headquarters in Islamabad brought us back to the sometimes harsh reality of travel in modern Pakistan. As we bounced and swerved down the Grand Trunk Road, onto the plains of the Punjab, over the Indus River bridge at Attock, and through the raucous bazaar of Rawalpindi, our week of archaeological fantasy in Buddhist Gandhara was already beginning to recede into memory.



Program Notes

Professor **David Knechtges** gave the Tompkins Endowed Lectures at the University of California at Berkeley in April. The lectures, sponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages, are named for Edward Tompkins, who contributed funds to establish the first endowed professorship at Berkeley, the Agassiz Professorship of Oriental Languages and Literature. The two lectures were "Gradually Entering the Realm of Delight: Food and Drink in Medieval China," and "Culling the Weeds and Selecting Prime Blossoms: The Anthology in Medieval China." Professor Knechtges was Inaugural Lecturer for the Richard M. Mather Lectures at the University of Minnesota in 1995, and is currently completing work on *The Handbook on Classical Chinese Literature* and a longer-term project on the Court Culture of China.

On May 10, 1996, the Department of Asian Languages and Literature sponsored The **Andrew L. Markus Memorial Symposium** in honor of the late Associate Professor **Andrew L. Markus**. The symposium, centering on Tokugawa Period Japan (1603-1867), featured distinguished scholars from North America and Japan, including **Susan Hanley**, Professor of Japanese Studies and History at the University of Washington, Chair of the Japan Studies Program, Associate Director of the Jackson School of International Studies, and Editor of *The Journal of Japanese Studies*, speaking on "Tokugawa Meat and Potatoes and Other Earthy Subjects"; **Laura Hess**, assistant professor at St. Olaf College, Northfield, Minnesota, teaching this summer at Brown University, and a graduate of this Department, speaking on "Tokugawa Contributions to Qing Scholarship"; **Howard Hibbett**, Victor S. Thomas Professor of Japanese Literature Emeritus at Harvard University and editor of the *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, speaking on "Parody and Satire in Edo Gesaku"; **Jeffrey Johnson**, Assistant Professor of Japanese at the University of Utah and former student of Professor Markus, speaking on "History and

Biography in a Time of Theory: A Review of the Scholarship of Andrew L. Markus"; **Herman Ooms**, Professor of Japanese History, University of California at Los Angeles, speaking on "Status and State Racism: From Kawata to Eta"; and **Melinda Takeuchi**, Associate Professor of Japanese Art at Stanford University, speaking on "From Medieval to Pre-Modern: Representations of the Painter and 'What's in a Name?'"

Professor **Amy Snyder Ohta** presented papers at three conferences during the spring: "The construction of the expert-novice relationship in pair work: Negotiations of roles and meanings in the zone of proximal development," presented at the American Association of Applied Linguistics, Chicago, Illinois; "The development of pragmatic competence in learner-learner interaction," presented at the International Conference on Pragmatics and Language Learning, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois; and "Classroom language and the socialization of interactional style in adult learners of Japanese as a foreign language," presented at the Association of Asian Studies, Honolulu, Hawaii. Professor Ohta has published an article entitled "Applying sociocultural theory to an analysis of learner discourse: learner-learner collaborative interaction in the ZPD," in *Issues in Applied Linguistics* (in press).

Professor **Kaoru Ohta** attended the Sixth Japanese/Korean Linguistics Conference (University of Hawaii) and the West Conference of Linguistics (University of Northern British Columbia), presenting papers at both. He published an article, "The Verbal Stem Form of Japanese," in the *Journal of Association of Teachers of Japanese*.

New courses (beginning autumn, 1996) in the Japanese language program include Japan 421, 422, 423, **Fourth-year Japanese for Professional and Academic Purposes I, II, III**, Amy Snyder Ohta; Japan 442, **Morphology and Syntax of Japanese**, Kaoru Ohta; Japan 443, **Japanese Sociolinguistics**, Amy Snyder Ohta. The

Japanese Major is currently under revision.

Professor Richard Salomon recently presented a lecture and slide show about his trip to Pakistan's Northwest Frontier Province, entitled "Recovering a Lost Buddhist World: Monuments and Relics of Ancient Gandhara in Pakistan." Salomon's talk drew a diverse crowd of faculty, graduate and undergraduate students.

In October, Ms. **Naseem Hines** chaired a panel, "Recent Research on Performance and Worship," at the Annual Conference on South Asia in Madison, Wisconsin. In March, she presented a paper to SACPAN (South Asia Colloquium of the Pacific Northwest) at the University of Washington, entitled "The Home-Coming Episode in Maulana Daud's Masnavi *Candayan*." At the same Conference, papers in Hindi linguistics and literature were presented by Department Chair **Michael C. Shapiro** and graduate student **Valerie Ritter**.

A concert and discussion of Qawwali music, organized by Ms. Hines, was held at the Seattle Asian Art Museum on July 14, 1996. Qawwali is a performance tradition which originated at the sufi centers of South Asia, Ms. Hines comments. It later became an important part of the celebrations at the shrines of Sufi saints. The performers, all members of the South Asian American community of Seattle, performed four pieces, moving from the spiritual to the secular.

Jeffrey Schoening has published *The Salistamba Sutra and Its Indian Commentaries* (University of Vienna). The first volume contains the translation of this Buddhist sutra on dependent arising and two of its commentaries as well as several introductory chapters on such topics as sutra commentaries translated into Tibetan and the history of scriptural transmission in Tibet. The second volume presents the Tibetan editions of the Salistamba Sutra and its three Indian commentaries. ☒



Mr. Robert Omar Khan, Asst. Prof. Amy Snyder Ohta, Asst. Prof. Kaoru Ohta.

ADDITIONS TO THE FACULTY

In the autumn of 1995, Mr. **Robert Omar Khan** joined the Department's faculty as Visiting Lecturer in Classical Japanese. Mr. Khan earned a B.A. in Classics and Modern Languages (1977) and a Diploma of Comparative Philology (1980) from Oxford University. He received his M.A. in Japanese, specializing in literary theory, stylistic analysis, and translation (theses, "Ishikawa Takuboku and the Politics of Literary Criticism") from the University of Texas at Austin (1990). Mr. Khan's Ph.D. work in Asian Studies (his dissertation concerns the late Heian novel *Ariake no Wakare*) is currently being completed at the University of British Columbia.

New to the faculty beginning autumn, 1996, are Assistant Professor **Ann Sung-hi Lee**, Visiting Assistant Professor **Heidi Rika Maria Pauwels**, Ms. **Izumi Matsuda**, Ms. **Fumiko Takeda**, and Ms. **May Hoshide**.

Assistant Professor **AnnSung-hi Lee** will be teaching courses in the Korean language program.

She received her Ph.D. in 1990 in East Asian Languages and Cultures, with concentration in Korean (dissertation, "Yi Kwangsu and Korean Literature"), and her B.A. in East Asian Languages and Civilizations from Harvard University (1980).

Returning to the Department this autumn is **Visiting Assistant Professor Heidi Nika Maria Pauwels**. Dr. Pauwels received her Ph.D. in South Asian Languages and Literature, specializing in Hindi (dissertation, "Hariram Vyas's *Ras-pancadhyayi* and *Man ki Smkhala*: A critical interpretation") under the late Associate Professor Alan Entwistle, in the Department of Asian Languages and Literature in 1994. Dr. Pauwels took her M.A. in Eastern Philology and History, Indo-Iranistics, from Katholieke Universiteit, Leuven, Belgium. After her graduation from this department, Dr. Pauwels accepted the position of Lecturer in Hindi at SOAS, University of London. Dr. Pauwels will teach Relig 352 (Hinduism), Introductory Sanskrit, and courses on medieval Hindi texts.

Ms. **Izumi Matsuda** received her M.A. in Japanese from the University of Wisconsin-

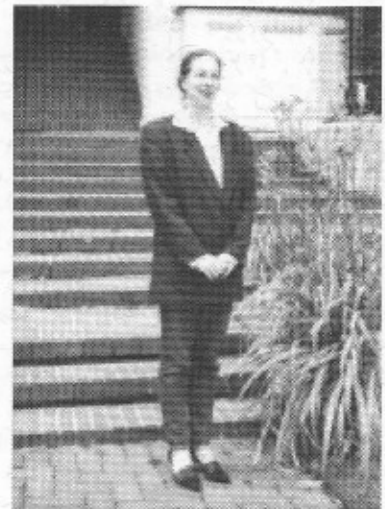
Madison, and her B.A. in English from Osaka Women's University. She has been an Instructor at Michigan State University since the autumn of 1993, as well as an Instructor at Beloit College during the summers of 1994 and 1995. Ms. Matsuda will coordinate First-year Japanese.

Two new Teaching Associates join the Department's faculty this autumn: Ms. **Fumiko Takeda** and Ms. **May Hoshide**. Ms. Takeda received her M.A. in Japanese Language Pedagogy from the University of Oregon. Ms. Hoshide is a M.A. graduate in Japanese from our own Department. ☒

In Memory

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10, 1949. He completed his Ph.D. in Hindi in 1982 at the School of Oriental and African Studies of the University of London, writing a dissertation on an important Medieval Vaishnava literary and devotional text. After teaching for five years at the University of Groningen in the Netherlands, Professor Entwistle joined the faculty of Asian Languages and Literature in 1986. He was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 1990. In addition to teaching courses on Hindi language and literature, Professor Entwistle taught courses on Hinduism and Hindu iconography in the Comparative Religion Program of the Jackson School of International Studies. ☒



Visiting Asst. Prof. Heidi Nika Maria Pauwels

Student Activities

The Department's annual Graduate Student Colloquium was held Saturday, April 27th, 1996, between 8:30 and noon, in the Gowen B-1 Lounge. Coordinating this year's efforts were Student Representative **Adam Ross**, GPSS Senator **Matthew Carter**, and GPSS Senator and Student Representative **Valerie Ritter**. The Keynote speaker, **Professor John Treat**, spoke on "Imagining Hiroshima and the American Memory: the Enola Gay on Display." The day opened with coffee, tea, and socialization, followed by the presentation of eight papers, to wit: **Bob Wilkinson**, South Asian Studies, "A Study of Mughal Influence in Indian Paintings of the *Ramayana*," **William Burton**, Asian Languages and Literature, "The Image of Tokyo in Soseki's *Sanshir*: Locale as Geographical Irony," **Kabir Heimsath**, Comparative Religion, "Tales of Liberation: the Lives of Tibetan Saints as Buddhist Narratives of Enlightenment," **Paul Anderson**, Asian Languages and Literature, "Pop Song as Narrative Device: the Use of *Sanqu* in *Jin Ping Mei cihua*," **Rich Blitstein**, Comparative Religion, "The Persistence of Orality in Tibetan Buddhism," **Pamela Lothspeich**, Asian Languages and Literature, "Time and Timelessness: Shifting Perceptions of 'Time' in Epic, Dramatic and Novelistic Versions of the Sakuntala Narrative," **Jan Weisman**, Anthropology, "Rice Outside the Paddy: the Fictionalization of the Amerasian Experience in Thailand," **Megumi Inoue**, Asian Languages and Literature, "On the Kabuki Play 'Sakurahime Azuma Bunsho.'" A bound notebook of these papers is available in the office of the Graduate Secretary, Asian Languages and Literature, Gowen 223A.

Mr. Ravinder Singh is spending the year (spring, 1996 - winter, 1997) researching his dissertation topic, the fiction of Nirmal Verma, in Delhi. Mr. Singh will be affiliated with Jawaharlal Nehru University, where he will work under the supervision of Professor Namwar Singh,



noted Hindi critic and scholar. While in India Mr. Singh will also consult with Professor Harish Trivedi of Delhi University and Doctor Alók Bhalla of the Central Institute of English and Foreign Languages, Hyderabad, both well-known scholars of contemporary Indian literature.

Ms. Christine Marran has had an article published in *U.S.-Japan Woman's Journal*, entitled "'Poison Woman,' Takahashi Oden and the Spectacle of Female Deviance in Early Meiji."

In September, **Dr. Ding Xiang Warner** (Ph.D., 1996) will begin teaching Chinese language and literature at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Ms. Andrea Lingenfelter, whose dissertation centers on modern Chinese women poets, reviews a collection of poetry by Shu Ting, a modern woman poet associated with the Misty Poets, in a forthcoming (special) issue of *Modern Chinese Literature*. Ms. Lingenfelter has also created subtitles for Chen Kaige's film "Temptress Moon," which showed at the Cannes Film Festival this year.

Ms. Arienne Dwyer, whose dissertation involves a study of the phonology of Salar, a mixed language of Turkic origin spoken in Amdo Tibet, will be conducting research in Turkic linguistics as a Humboldt Scholar at the Seminar für Orientkunde in Mainz, Germany, during 1996/97. In April of this year Ms. Dwyer presented a paper at the Association for Asian Studies' annual meeting in Honolulu entitled "The Texture of Tongues: Languages and Power in China." Ms. Dwyer hopes to defend her dissertation ("Salar Phonology") this summer.

On 17 March, the Yuen Ren Society held its second public Conference on Fresh Chinese Dialect Fieldwork, in Philadelphia. Papers included studies of several never-before described individual dialects of Fukien, Kiangsu, and Taiwan, as well as studies of tonal behavior in three

better-known dialects. There were participants from the US, Taiwan, and China. The conference was organized by **Mr. David Prager Branner** (PhD expected 1996), and takes place annually. The second volume of the Society's occasional journal, *The Treasury*, was issued in conjunction with the conference.

The Yuen Ren Society also sponsored two panels in Chinese dialect classification at the 206th Annual Meeting of the American Oriental Society in March. Papers were delivered by speakers from Taiwan and China, as well as the United States. The panels were conceived and organized by an Asian Languages and Literature alumnus, Professor Richard Vanness Simmons (PhD, 1992), who will edit a volume of Proceedings deriving from the sessions.

This has been a year in which Mr. Branner has had many accomplishments. In November, Mr. Branner was awarded the inaugural Tuttle Language Grant for Asian Language Publication Research for his *Dictionary of the Longyan Dialect*. In addition, he received a graduate student award from the North American Association for the History of the Language Sciences (NAAHoLS).

Mr. Branner has organized a panel on the history of Sinology for the meeting of the Western Branch of the American Oriental Society, which will take place in October, 1996.

In the Autumn, Mr. Branner will teach Asian 201, "Literature and Culture of Ancient and Classical China," one of a series of Asian literature-in-translation courses now offered quarterly by the Department.

Mr. Mark Asselin presented a paper entitled "The Lu School Reading of 'Guan ju' Preserved in an Eastern *Han Fu*," at the Western Branch Meeting of the American Oriental Society held at UCLA November 3-4, 1995. Mr. Asselin says that an article based on this paper is being considered for publication.

On May 9th and 10th, the graduate students held their biennial book sale. The Asian L&L student lounge was transformed into a repository of books, magazines, and scholarly journals. Students and faculty alike found bargains on Asian language dictionaries, literary anthologies, as well as the odd pulpy novel.

Funds from the book sale are used to sponsor the Annual Graduate Student Symposium as well as to help defray expenses of graduate students who present papers at colloquia outside of Seattle. This year, the graduate students, together with the Department of Asian Languages and Literature, were also able to purchase a much needed new microwave for the student lounge.

Donations of books, especially those on Asian topics, are always welcomed for future book sales. If you have any books you would like to donate, feel free to drop them by the Department office and the graduate student representatives will be happy to put them into storage until the next book sale.



From the Chair

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literature and civilization. In addition, the Markuses have donated funds toward the purchase of books and related materials dealing with pre-modern Japanese literature and civilization. I believe the University community owes a debt of gratitude to Lawrence and Lois Markus for finding an appropriate way to both honor the memory of their son and to further the study of classical Japanese literature. ❀

The Department welcomes Ms. Jennifer Lin, who joined us in January, 1996, filling the position of Secretary. Ms. Lin hails from central New Jersey and is a graduate of Rutgers University, having majored in English Literature and Journalism. Welcome aboard, Jennifer!

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Ms. Willette Lowe, graduating senior, & Ms. Lauren Hussey, (new) Undergraduate Adviser.

This year the Department of Asian Languages and Literature welcomed a new Undergraduate Adviser, Ms. Lauren Hussey. Ms. Hussey has worked as a Program Assistant in the Department since 1982, and was recently promoted to the position of Program Coordinator. Her "working titles" are Graduate Secretary and Undergraduate Adviser.

Advising of undergraduates in the Department is enhanced and augmented by a new Mentor Program in which students are urged to "sign up" with a faculty member for program enrichment.

UW Department of Asian Languages and Literature

You may wish to support the Department of Asian Languages and Literature by making a contribution to one of its specific funds. You can do this by sending a check made out to "University of Washington Foundation" with one of the funds listed below designated on the memo line of your check. Please send the check along with this form to:

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