Chi On (Andy) Chin was this year’s recipient of the prestigious Young Scholar Award, given at this year’s meeting in Paris of the International Association of Chinese Linguistics. At the Paris meeting, Andy delivered a talk on “Two Types of Indirect Object Markers in Chinese: Their Typological Significance and Development.” Chin received his doctorate in June upon the completion of his dissertation “The verb give and the double-object construction in Cantonese in synchronic, diachronic and typological perspectives.”

Fusae Ekida has obtained a tenure track position teaching Japanese literature at the University of Evansville in Indiana. She will be teaching both language and literature at the university beginning in Autumn 2009. Ekida will receive her doctoral degree in premodern Japanese literature in August. Her dissertation research is entitled "Reception History of the Man'yoshu."

Ed Lien published an article about third-century radical alterations to the Chinese di-flute. “A Third Century AD Chinese System of Di-Flute Temperament,” written in conjunction with Howard L. Goodman, editor of Asia Major, appears in the April edition of The Galpin Society Journal. In the article, Lien and Goodman explore Xun’s thinking, motivation, and technical approach to the flute’s retemperament. Their research was based on conversations and records preserved in the Song shu that depict Xun’s interaction with low-ranked court musicians and technicians and his computations for the flute’s reconfiguration.

Tim O’Neill and Mark Pitner have been awarded dissertation fellowships from the Chiang Ching-Kuo Foundation in Taiwan. O’Neill received one for the 08-09 academic year, and Pitner has received one for this coming year.

Yuki Shigeto has obtained a tenure track position teaching modern Japanese literature in the East Asia Studies Department of New York University in New York City. She received her doctoral degree in June upon completion of her dissertation “Politics of writing: tenko and the crisis of representation.” Earlier in the academic year, she presented “Politics of writing: Nakano Shigeharu’s ‘tenko’ literature” at the Association for Japanese Literary Studies conference in Atlanta.

Nick Williams presented a paper entitled “Two Languages, Two Countries, Two Colors of Hair: Yamanoue no Okura” at the American Comparative Literature Association, held at Harvard University in March 2009. His study contrasts the rhetorical features of the Chinese and Japanese writings of Yamanoue no Okura (660-733). Williams also published an article, "A Conversation in Poems: Xie Lingyun, Xie Huilian, and Jiang Yan," in the 2007 volume of the Journal of the American Oriental Society. It will reappear, in slightly altered guise, as part of his dissertation on the imitation poetry of the Six Dynasties.

Li Yang attended the American Oriental Society Western Branch’s annual meeting Oct. 24-25 in Portland, Oregon. Yang presented a paper on a newly discovered manuscript from a tomb in southern China in 4th century B.C. The section “Are ‘Ghosts and Spirits’ Discerning in Rewarding and Punishment or Not?” from The Shanghai Museum Collection of Chu Warring States Period Bamboo Strips, Vol. 5, provides new perspectives on questions of the transmission and circulation of popular Mohist texts and enriches understanding of the Mo zi.
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