

UC SANTA BARBARA

EAST ASIAN LANGUAGES & CULTURAL STUDIES



**Department
Newsletter**

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Mission Statement

The Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies is committed to providing students with the opportunity to understand the many facets of East Asian cultures, including languages, literature, history, society, politics, economics, religion, media, and art. In a world of increasing international connection and globalization, we prepare students to incorporate knowledge of Asia into their future interactions and responsibilities within our complex world.

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Words From the Chair

As I write, it is Summer of 2020, and the 2019 newsletter is only now appearing. Due to a year with several enormous interruptions to best-laid plans, we apologize for the delay. This year has tried us all to the fullest extent, but I am proud to be able to express here how remarkably our entire EALCS community adjusted and adapted to the conditions we all lived through over the past several months. When faced with an immediate switch to online academic and professional life, our undergraduates, graduate students, lecturers, faculty, and the outstanding staff who work with us and support us, all caught their breath and got to work. To those adjusting to learning and teaching online, to those whose research plans were interrupted and have to be re-designed, to those balancing home working conditions with increased family responsibilities, to those already feeling the financial constrictions facing the university, and to those suffering from the lack of human contact with friends, family, and colleagues, I thank each of you for doing the very best you could under calamitous conditions and for supporting each other and EALCS in so many ways.

We lost the chance to mark the accomplishments of most of our graduating majors and minors in person this year, but the Japanese language program was able to hold a Zoom award ceremony that was touching and wonderfully personal in spite of the limiting format. I would like to honor all of our undergraduates' hard work and department engagement over this last year. I hope that the focus you put into your studies gave you a clear and steadfast path through these times of such confusion and disarray. A special congratulations to those who have just graduated, especially for persisting with dedication in your studies and thereby gaining not only new knowledge in your academic areas of interest, but also new knowledge of your ability to get a job done under highly-challenging conditions. While it has been a truly bewildering and stressful time, a strong sense of your capabilities to navigate the unexpected and adapt to circumstances is in fact, a very valuable way to head into your new post-college life. We send you off with all best wishes – stay in touch!

Our graduate students also proved themselves to be remarkable this year, continuing on their paths towards graduate degrees, studying, TAing in-person and remotely, winning fellowships, and passing qualifying exams. It was a year of engaging with the greater context of graduate study, as students sought to turn our attention to the ever-escalating cost of living in California and what it means to their ability to carry out their studies. Altogether, a year of teaching and learning under the many complicated conditions of 2019-2020 added greatly to the existing full plate of graduate study, and I commend our graduate students for how well they carried on and moved forward.

I would like to acknowledge our language program lecturers who so expertly went above and beyond during this time. Turning in-person language programs into online instruction was particularly challenging, and our Korean, Chinese, and Japanese language programs not only stayed the course, but actually thrived. The instructors put dedicated hours into creatively adapting their programs and reaching out to their students. Our language instructors could not comprise a more remarkable group of teachers, individually and as teams. Un-

der recent circumstances, they have proven again how extraordinary they are and how central a position they hold for our undergraduate students' sense of belonging in the department.

One of our Japanese language lecturers, Chikako Shinagawa, is now retiring. A master teacher with the highest possible positive evaluations from her students year after year, it has been our great honor to call her one of our own for the past twenty years. Highlights of her remarkable professional career include co-authorship of the most widely-used Japanese language textbooks and workbooks, Genki I and Genki II, as well as authorship of other language-learning materials, and several prestigious awards and grants to support or recognize her work. The latter includes a Distinguished Teaching Award from the UCSB Academic Senate, a rarely-bestowed honor for non-senate faculty. In retirement, she will be completing revisions for new editions of the Genki textbooks, and undoubtedly her energies will find new outlets towards new accomplishments. EALCS is so proud of Ms. Shinagawa, and so grateful for her innumerable contributions. Needless to say, she will be sorely missed.



Katherine Saltzman-Li

I would also like to acknowledge Dr. Eunjin Choi, Korea Foundation Visiting Professor, and Dr. Jing Wang, Visiting Professor of Modern Japanese Literature and Film, along with the temporary Lecturers and Associates hired in Winter and Spring, who were all called upon this year to put great extra effort into their teaching, interrupting research and other forms of department and university participation. Their contributions to EALCS have been invaluable, and we are delighted that both Dr. Choi and Dr. Wang will remain with us next year to continue the fine teaching and advising they have contributed to our department and to our students.

Along with our highly impressive Korean language instructor, Dr. Wona Lee, Dr. Choi's continuing presence and contributions to EALCS are helping us enhance and develop our growing Korean Studies program. As I reported in last year's newsletter, Korean Studies has grown in EALCS over the last several years through lecture series, added language courses, extremely generous renewed support from the Korea Foundation for Dr. Choi's position, and now additional timely and exceptionally generous support from Mr. Alex Jose. Mr. Jose recently gave substantial initial funds to establish the Hyung Il Pai Endowed Fund for Korean Studies in honor and memory of his wife and our longtime esteemed colleague, Professor Pai. With these many kinds of contributions and increasing programs, we are very excited to see Korean Studies gradually take a greater position in the department.

It is not easy right now to remember events from before 2019-2020, a year that will loom large for each and every one of us in so many ways, but as I step down as EALCS Chair, I am

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Chinese Language Program

The 2018-2019 academic year was full of activities and joy for the Chinese Language Program! In addition to offering multiple levels of Chinese language courses, the program also organized cultural events and extracurricular activities, which included Mandarin Chinese speech competitions, Chinese character handwriting competitions, a language partner program (with the Chinese Students and Scholars Association), Chinese New Year celebration (with the UCSB Confucius Institute), summer China trip (with the UCSB Confucius Institute), and an international conference on Chinese language teaching and research.

Chinese Speech Contest

Two Mandarin Chinese speech competitions were held during the 2018-2019 academic year, one in the fall quarter and one in the spring. The latter was combined with the celebration of the United Nations Chinese Language Day (April 20), which roughly corresponds to Guyu in the Chinese calendar. Chinese people celebrate Guyu (which usually begins around April 20) in honor of Cangjie who invented Chinese characters.



“Language Buddy” Program

The Chinese Language Program has worked with the Chinese Students and Scholars Association to provide this language partner program continuously for years. Many students from our Chinese classes make friends with students from China. Students practice their target languages and get to know different cultures. A new workshop “Traditional Chinese Music Workshop” also has drawn much attention from our students.



Chinese Character Handwriting Competitions

Three Chinese character handwriting competitions were successfully organized in the fall, winter, and spring quarters. Students handwrote some famous classical poems from the Tang dynasty with enormous enthusiasm. The activity not only improved their skills at character handwriting, but also strengthened their interest in learning Chinese.



Chinese New Year Celebration



The Chinese Language Program closely worked with the UCSB Confucius Institute to organize the annual Spring

Continued on page 16. See **Chinese Language Program**.

Japanese Language Program

The year 2018-2019 was another wonderful year for the Japanese Language Program! Students being filled with passion to advance their language skills and to understand the Japanese society and culture better, their learning experiences took them beyond classrooms, such as the extensive reading club in Japanese (Tadoku 多読), Sushi workshop, and Japanese Language Café. Students in all levels of Japanese courses got together to celebrate everybody's achievement at the End-of-year Arigatoo party.

Tadoku 多読, a place where students enjoy reading Japanese books!



Started in 2013, Tadoku (多読), which means "to read a lot", continues to grow with the numbers of students and its collection of the books provided for students to read. The club, led by a Japanese lecturer Hiroko Sugawara, meets weekly. The club offers students in all proficiency levels a unique opportunity that they cannot have in class: students can enjoy reading authentic materials of Japanese without using dictionaries in a totally relaxing environment. They pick up one book or manga comic book that is suitable for their reading proficiency level as well as satisfies their own interests for the Japanese culture and literature. While it may sound challenging, students often become so engrossed in reading it that they lose track of time. This past year Tadoku had more than a dozen students taking up this reading challenge every week!

Sushi workshop: Make and eat Japanese food!

Everybody agrees that sushi is the internationally recognized icon of Japanese culture! Fukiko Miyazaki, a Santa Barbara resident and Japanese chef joins host Chikako Shinagawa for a student sushi workshop twice a year. The workshop is so popular that it fills up quickly with students who are enthusiastic about Japanese cooking.



The Japanese Language Café: Chat more, enjoy more, and connect more with on another!

A life of the students studying Japanese in our program cannot be told without JLC, where they bond through many events. They connect not only with their fellow Japanese learners but with international students from Japan at JLC. This year, with the support of faculty advisor Yoko Yamauchi, JLC hosted many events, including a riceball (onigiri) workshop, hinamatsuri chirashi-sushi workshop, karaoke party and BBQ at Goleta Beach. As always, we are blessed to have



many students who are highly motivated to study Japanese and excel in the language and cross-cultural communication. They are always eager to understand the Japanese culture and society through various activities on and off campus. It is always exciting and encouraging to us Japanese language

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East Asia Center



LEADERSHIP

Director

Professor Sabine Frühstück

Department of East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies

Advisory Board

Professor Jia-Ching Chen, Global Studies

Professor Jin-Sook Lee, Education

Professor Yunte Huang, English

Professor Luke Roberts, History

Professor Katherine Saltzman-Li, EALCS

MISSION

The East Asia Center (EAC) at the University of California, Santa Barbara promotes interdisciplinary research and cultural events on East Asia. It brings together UCSB faculty, students, and the wider local public with leading scholars and other creative individuals from other institutions in order to create a critical and nurturing community for the study of East Asia. EAC strives to collaborate with a range of departments, individuals and other units in the Humanities, Social Sciences and beyond that are invested in education and public understanding of East Asia. EAC invests in relationships between UCSB and the East Asian region as well as the academy and the public.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

\$970,183 awarded in grants

- \$99,900 Korea Foundation Visiting Professor Award, 2018-19
- \$99,900 Korea Foundation Visiting Professor Award, 2019-20
- \$767,883 Japan Foundation Institutional Project Support Grant, 2019-2022 (including matching funds from UCSB)

- \$2,500 Letters and Sciences Conference Grant, 2018

EAC also gratefully acknowledges support from the departments of Asian American Studies, East Asian Languages & Cultural Studies, History, Feminist Studies, Art, History of Art and Architecture, Film and Media Studies, Global Studies, and Political Science; from the Cold War Center, the Graduate Center for Literary Research, the Center for the Interdisciplinary Study of Music, the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, the Orfaela Center for Global and International Studies, and the International Shinto Foundation Chair in Shinto Studies; the divisions of Humanities and Fine Arts and Graduate Division.

3 visiting fellows hosted

- Professor Ellen van Goethem (Asian Studies, Kyushu University, 2018-19)
- Professor Yan Li (Languages & Literatures, Nanjing Xiaozhuang University, 2018-19)
- Professor Ha Sung Hwang (Media and Communication, Dongguk University, 2019-20)

10 talks organized

1 graduate conference organized

Professor Robert Campamy

Asian Studies, Vanderbilt University

Dreaming Religious Identity: Master Zhou's Communications with the Unseen World

9 January 2019

Professor Bert Winther-Tamaki

Art History, UCI

Toxic Mud and Other Contaminated Earthly Substances in Japanese Installation Art During and After the Bubble Economy, 1980s-1990s

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In Her Own Words:

Professor Xiaorong Li on her new book, *The Poetics and Politics of Sensuality in China: The “Fragrant and Bedazzling” Movement (1600-1930)*

When I tell people about the topic of my book, that it is on xiangyan or erotic poetry, the reaction is almost always the same. More often than not, they try not to react and say “oh--okay, that’s interesting—you must have a lot of fun writing it...”

To me, this reaction seems to indicate that they know—or think they know—what xiangyan or erotic literature is, and they are caught off guard because they are surprised that this could be an area of serious scholarly research.

In addition, they cannot reconcile erotic literature with my somewhat introverted personality and demure appearance. In fact, some of my close friends have expressed their concern about my reputation in academia when they saw the book cover image. And to be honest, I was nervous about it myself when the designer said that the image could only be cropped so much. However, it worked out, and we have received many compliments for the cover.

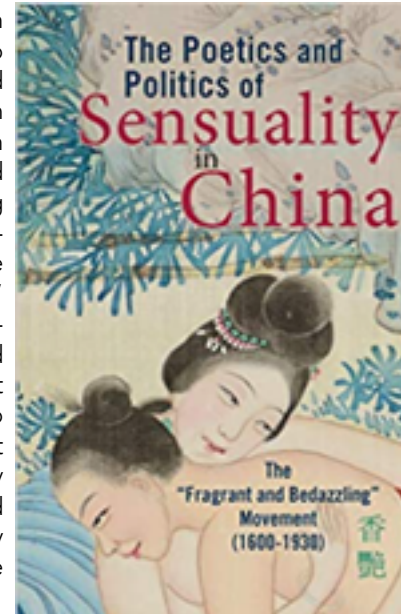
Well, then, my friends’ and colleagues’ reactions have made me reflect upon the topic choice of my book: Why xiangyan? Why do we feel somewhat uncomfortable about it? Do people really know what xiangyan is as a literary concept and the history revolving around it?

I uncovered this previously almost-uncharted area of study when I was doing research for my Ph.D. dissertation in the field of Ming-Qing Chinese women’s poetry. One day, when I was browsing an influential poetry anthology compiled by Shen Deqian, a leading scholar of the Qing dynasty who promoted Confucian poetic teaching, the following words in his editorial principles caught my eye: “Verses like those in Wang Cihui’s Collection of Phantom Rain, which tend to create verses on the Realm of Gentleness, are most harmful to morality. I absolutely excluded them” 動作溫柔鄉語，如王次回《疑雨集》之類，最足害人心術，一概不存。Wow—“most harmful to morality”! This is perhaps the harshest criticism ever made of a poet in Chinese history. But how so? These words made me extremely curious about Wang Cihui’s work. Guess what, I did find a copy of his Collection of Phantom Rain (Yiyu ji) at McGill library! It was a perfect copy, a modern re-print by a press in Taiwan with a preface and detailed annotations by a scholar called Zheng Qingmao. (For this copy, I must thank Professor Robin Yates, who had been painstakingly working with the librarian to make sure our East Asian Library have sufficient and diverse collections of Chinese texts.)

“Obscure xiangyan poetry and its history have such a power over us.”

Once I started reading Wang Cihui’s poetry collection, I couldn’t put it aside. What a “perverted” and “shocking” poet he is! At the same time, one could not help but marvel at how beautiful his lines are! I have read a good deal of classical Chinese poetry, but I had never read poems like Wang’s before. I soon

became fascinated with Wang Cihui, started to do more research on him, and published an article on him called “‘I Sliced my Flesh into Paper, and Ground my Liver into Ink’: Wang Cihui’s (1593-1642) Sensualist Poetry as an Alternative Route to Self-Realization” in the journal *Ming Studies* in 2013. Once I started researching more about Wang Cihui, I began to discover new, important aspects of Chinese literary and intellectual history, and I knew I had to share my findings. That’s why I wrote the book.



Mainly situated from the historical vantages at the turn of the seventeenth century and that of the twentieth century, this study on xiangyan has helped bring to light a literary tradition and related intellectual trends that have been neglected, marginalized, misunderstood, and even condemned in Chinese history. Many scholars have pointed out the centrality of sentiment to China’s process of modernization. Paradoxically, because of richness of the corpus of the texts on sensuality and romantic sentiment, they gradually became part of a lost world—a literary past that even present-day scholars sometimes cannot take seriously.

Although not many know about the sort of sensual poetry and its historical and cultural milieu I uncover in my book, the classical tradition of sensual lyrics actually never really died out. There have always been a small number of avid readers of Wang Cihui and some other sensualist poets such as Huang Jingren—even up to the present time. With the Internet, poetry lovers have circulated these poets’ works in unprecedented fashion. Who would imagine that after so many literary or cultural revolutions we would still have the opportunity to read Wang Cihui’s poetry? We continue to be moved by the “fragrance” and “bedazzlement” of the most exquisite sensual verses. I believe, even though it has been relegated to the margins, classical sensual-sentimental lyricism will come back to us again and again, whether to fulfill individual quests or drive cultural transformation. I once read somewhere that “things that are obscure are actually most interesting because they can be inspirational in their subtle ways.” Obscure xiangyan poetry and its history have such a power over us.

I hope you all get a chance read my book and find it enjoyable. And finally, you may judge this book by its cover, but please, don’t judge the author by her book’s cover.

The school year 2018-2019 was the fifth year of activities organized by the UC Santa Barbara Confucius Institute. This year was just as busy and eventful as previous years. Below are the many events that were organized or co-sponsored by the Confucius Institute.

October 15, 2018

Prof. Jing Wang of the Comparative Media Studies Program at M.I.T. came and delivered a lecture titled: China's Gray Zone: Non-Confrontational Activism on the Social Web. The talk discussed media activists in China who are engaged in non-confrontational social action, and their strategies of social media engagement. Prof. Wang provided examples of social media activism staged on Weibo, and online blog, and addressed the question: What happens to Chinese social media, in the current Chinese climate of tightened censorship?

October 17, 2018

The Confucius Institute co-sponsored the New Book Launch of UC Santa Barbara **Prof. Xiaowei Zheng**, a historian of modern China. Prof. Zheng's new book is titled: The Politics of Rights and the 1911 Revolution in China. The main sponsor of this event was the UCSB History Department, and the other co-sponsor was the East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies Department.

October 25, 2018

Prof. Eileen Otis, Sociology Department, University of Oregon gave a lecture titled: Working for Walmart in China: Outsourcing, Gender and Retail Service Floor Struggles. The talk examined how China has become the center of Walmart's global retail expansion. Walmart now operates over 400 stores across China. While the firm endeavors to bring its American, logistics-driven business model to China's mammoth consumer market, China is having a profound effect on the way Walmart conducts business. Prof. Otis showed the effects of China's institutional, social and cultural infrastructures on Walmart.

November 10-11, 2018

International Conference of Chinese Languages Teaching and Research -- With funding from the UCSB Confucius Institute, **Dr. Daoxing Guan** and **Bella Chen**, two Chinese language lecturers in the Department of East Asian Studies, together organized this two-day international conference at UCSB. About 120 Chinese language instructors and scholars gathered at UCSB to exchange views and deliver papers on the art and science of teaching Chinese language.

November 19, 2018

Prof. Min Li of the Anthropology Department at UCLA gave a lecture titled: *Social Memory and State Formation in Early China – from the Neolithic to the Zhou Dynasty*. Prof. Li used a wide range of historical and archaeological data to propose a new account of the long-term processes that enabled a classical civilization in China to take shape. His lecture addressed these questions: What were the diverse sources of the Zhou Historical Knowledge? How did the Zhou state use this historical knowledge as the blueprint for its state-building enterprise? Using the notion of memory communities, Prof. Li revealed how legacies of prehistoric interregional interactions,

state formation, urban efflorescence and collapse during the late third and the second millenniums BCE, laid the critical foundation for the notion of the Three Dynasties in Zhou historiography.

November 28-30, 2018

The Confucius Institute co-sponsored an **art exhibit** organized by Peter Sturman of the History of Art & Architecture Department and the East Asia Center, titled: ***All Under Heaven—Landscapes of China***. Present were two artists whose works were exhibited in the University Art Museum: Arnold Chang (ink painter) and Michael Cherney (photographer). The Chinese calligraphy brush paintings of traditional Chinese mountains and rivers were exquisite. Main sponsor: History of Art and Architecture Department; other co-sponsor was East Asia Center.

January 11-12, 2019

The Confucius Institute organized an **international conference: "Chinese Religio-Environmental Ethics and Practice."** The UCSB Religious Studies Department and the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center co-sponsored the event, which had eight paper presentations on how we can learn from environmentalist aspects of Chinese religious culture in the past, as well as examples of religiously-inspired environmentalism in the present. The participants included: Liang Yongjia (Anthropology, Zhejiang University/National University of Singapore); Adam Chau (East Asian Studies, University of Cambridge); Yang Der-Ruey (Anthropology, Nanjing University); Wei Dedong (Renmin Univ/Columbia University); Tristan Brown (St. John's College, University of Cambridge); Sonya Lee (History of Art, USC); Huaiyu Chen (Religious Studies, Arizona State University); Mayfair Yang (Relig Studies & East Asian Studies, UCSB)

Feb. 7, 2019

The Confucius Institute held our annual **Chinese New Year celebration** and banquet, catered by Madam Lu Restaurant. About 130 students, faculty, and family members enjoyed student performances put on by students in the Chinese Language Program in the Department of East Asian Studies. Student volunteers affiliated with the Chinese Students and Scholars Association also performed traditional Chinese music and sang songs. Everyone then lined up to receive platefuls of good Chinese food.

Feb. 26, 2019

The film ***Finding Kukan: A Documentary*** was screened in McCune Hall, and Director Robin Lung spoke to the audience. This is a documentary about a Chinese-American woman who mobilized fundraising to support an American cinematographer to travel to China in the 1940's to the war-torn cities of Nanjing and Chongqing to film the suffering of the Chinese people under attack by invading Japanese forces. Director Lung

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The Writ of the Three Sovereigns

by Dominic Steavu

Professor Dominic Steavu's new book, *The Writ of the Three Sovereigns: From Local Lore to Institutional Daoism*, came out in 2019 from the University Hawai'i Press. EALCS graduate student Sophia Shi sat down with Prof. Steavu to ask him about his work.

Sophia Shi: Congratulations on the publication of your first book and on your promotion to associate professor! Could you briefly introduce your book *The Writ of the Three Sovereigns: From Local Lore to Institutional Daoism*?

Dominic Steavu: This book recovers the early medieval esoteric document known as the *Writ of the Three Sovereigns* (*Sanhuang wen*), and traces the text's transition from local tradition to empire-wide institutional religions. This book follows a chronological arc, tracing the destiny of the *Writ* from the beginning of the fourth century to the middle of the seventh. It assesses the scripture's status as a paragon of local Jiangnan culture, and it established talismans, elixirs, and charts as defining elements of its tradition. It highlights how these elements of southern practice were decisive in the *Writ*'s ascension and why they were crucial to the program of a unified Daoist creed. It is the first Western-language monograph to identify and analyze surviving fragments of the text and the first full-length study in any language to consider the *Writ* through ancillary practices such as alchemy and meditation. This book is not just about Daoism, but a scholarly work that connects a wide range of interdisciplinary topics in the field of East Asian studies, history studies, and religious studies, including the cultural history of materiality, philology, and intellectual history.

SS: You mention in your book that the *Writ* was banned and hard to access. How did you learn this scripture and come to be interested in this topic? What primary sources did you find on it?

DS: This project began in Tokyo in the fall of 2006 when my advisor Fabrizio Pregadio wondered how the *Writ of the Three Sovereigns* -- an influential source in the history of Daoism -- had not yet been the subject of a monograph-length study. The passages from *Baopu zi* that I was translating at the time also mention the *Writ* as the best Daoist text. I was intrigued by the text, but I remained apprehensive about working on it since it was so poorly understood. I looked into Daoist canonical sources and Buddhist sources in Dunhuang manuscripts, as well as Japanese sources on painting, in trying to solve the puzzles, and slowly I became obsessed with it. So I focused on this for my dissertation and overhauled it for the book after I came here.

SS: How is writing a book different from your experience with other kinds of publishing? What particular difficulties did you face in the writing and publishing process?

DS: The most significant difference is the workload. When

I was editing a special issue, I wrote the introduction and one chapter, and then checked other scholars' works to make a coherent progression of the issue. Writing a book requires much more effort: I need to produce everything by myself.

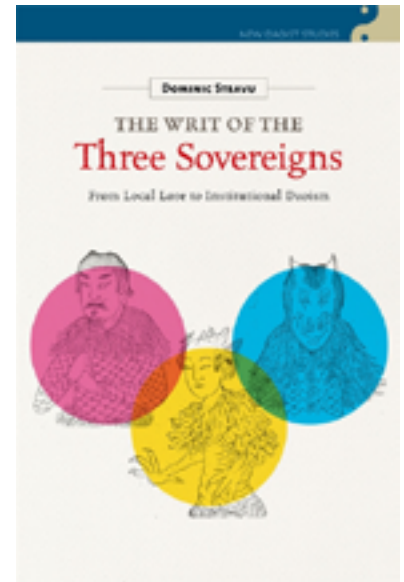
A journal article is only around twenty pages and focuses on one point, whereas a book is an extremely long article or multiple articles connected by a common theme.

I approached the book as a long article divided into five parts, and then five sections in each chapter. Working on the book over a long period of time poses its own difficulties. It took me four years of doing the dissertation: I spent two years finding evidence and translating, and then I finished the analysis within one to one-and-a-half years. After I got here, I reopened the file and worked on it for another three to four years -- a total of eight years, or twelve years if we consider the break. Another difficulty I encountered is that whenever I reread my work, I have the urge to change and update it continuously. I also go back to improve and refine my translations. I would not stop revising unless forced by external pressure. For this book, the pressure came from getting tenure.

SS: You mentioned that it was a long process for you to find this dissertation topic and an even harder one to gather the primary sources. What advice would you like to give to graduate students about finding a dissertation topic?

DS: In general, as a fellow researcher, I believe it is essential for grad students to have clear goals for the grad program and be committed to the program. You should know that it is hard to get a job, and therefore you should not expect a guaranteed future. Research is a long road, and passion alone is not enough, so it is best suited to those who enjoy studying for its own sake. For the premodern field, it would be beneficial to find a topic that can relate to multiple fields, connecting the thesis to a broader picture. If the philological and analytical component of the dissertation is universal, then you can

Continued on page 19. See **The Writ of the Three Sovereigns**.



2018 Fall Workshop and 10th Anniversary of Chinese Language Teachers' Association of Southern California (CLTA-SC)

Shu-Chuan (Bella) Chen

Members of CLTA-SC celebrated the tenth anniversary of the Association in conjunction with 2018 Fall Workshop at Fullerton Marriott at CSU on Oct. 27, 2018. UCSB lecturer Shu-Chuan (Bella) Chen participated in the event as one of the planning committee members for the celebration. The mission of CLTA-SC is to respond to the growing enthusiasm about Chinese language and culture and to continue to improve the quality of Chinese language and cultural instruction in Southern California. CLTA-SC has hosted conferences and workshops where educators exchange ideas, share experiences, and explore opportunities for student activities and cultural events.

In addition to serving on the planning committee for the Association's tenth anniversary celebration, as the vice president of CLTA-SC since 2014, Ms. Chen's has served as the chair of steering committee for Fall 2014 and 2016 Technology Workshops and of the planning committee for 2015 and 2016 Spring Chinese Language Pedagogy Workshops. Passionate about outreach beyond UCSB's campus, Ms. Chen has been just one of the many members of UCSB community that have participated in vocational associations and local communities.



Talking with Patrick Laboon (MA in 2016)

Xiaowei Zheng

Xiaowei Zheng: Can you tell me a little bit about what you have been doing after you graduated from our MA program in 2016?

Patrick Laboon: I am currently Academic Program Manager for the Freeman Spogli Institute of International Studies at Stanford University. We are primarily a research center aimed at supporting faculty work, but have a few student-facing initiatives which I run. They include:

- Global Policy Internships in partnership with various organizations around the world focused on international policy. I manage and review student applications, commit organizations as partners, fund their trips, receive and post blogs related to their work, etc.
- Research Grant administration for students working on international studies to go abroad for their research or travel to present their work at a conference
- I manage five student-led initiatives here on campus. These student groups are each focused on a specific region (US-China relations, for example, as well as the Middle East, Mexico, Japan, and Russia) and have working budgets which they use to plan conferences. They invite delegates interested in their region from universities around the world to attend. Typically, they have one conference at Stanford and another abroad (as a perk, I was able to travel with them to Tunisia and Russia last year). My role includes making sure they abide by university policy, help manage budgets and funding, help book travel and accommodations, make sure they all travel safely, etc.
- I manage an undergraduate research program where we pair undergrads with our faculty as RAs
- In the last year I've also picked up duties related to faculty searches for the institute and postdoc administration

Most recently, I was working with staff at Stanford University Press to help edit and publish Jean Oi's book on Zouping County. I think it was published in the very same month as your book, *The Politics of Rights*.

XZ: That sounds fascinating. How do you like your job?

PL: I've greatly enjoyed my work, in particular being able to work with students and help fund their research. Moreover, being at FSI and Stanford means that I still get to engage with international studies, which keeps things interesting. Each week we have some great speakers come through, and interacting and traveling with our student-led groups especially has kept me informed and introduced me to some exceptionally interesting and bright people.

XZ: I am so happy to hear that. Thinking back, what have you learned the most from our program?

PL: The MA program I completed in Asian Studies at UCSB helped me learn much more about how academia functions. You really do see more of what life is like for faculty as a graduate student due to more frequent interaction with them, smaller class sizes, and a greater focus in courses on not only your regional topic, but also more general questions like:

How is research done?

What makes a novel topic?

How can new knowledge and findings be created or unearthed?

And exercises in how to view your work from other perspectives, drill down on it, and preemptively strengthen your arguments.

I am incredibly proud of the work I completed during my program, including the pure sort of excitement in translating dozens of *People's Daily* articles and using them as primary sources for perhaps the first time in my academic work, alongside other research and the constant pondering and testing of the questions I've just mentioned against my work. A tight-knit community of supportive peers and faculty made this process so much easier. Living close to campus and becoming immersed in that supportive environment was wonderful.

XZ: After taking the academic track of our MA program, why did you choose a non-academic path?

PL: Going on to work in a supportive, administrative role in a university, I found that first-hand knowledge of what faculty are doing really helped me understand and appreciate for their work. So while I am in a non-academic role personally, I still feel quite connected to the academic community. While I must admit that, in the process of obtaining my MA, I decided that I did not desire to pursue a PhD and professorship, I was still sure that working in education in general was - and so here I am!

XZ: Thanks, Patrick, for spending the time to talk with us. We are delighted to see all your achievements!

Talking with Allison Visconti (MA in 2018)

Xiaowei Zheng

Xiaowei Zheng: What is your job now? What skills do you use the most in your work?

Allison Visconti: I work in international trade for a company that imports wood products from Fujian and Zhejiang Provinces. This material helps protect old-growth North American forests by substituting a species that the Chinese have been sustainably growing and replanting for a thousand years. Although it isn't the exact job I imagined taking, it is fundamentally just what I wanted to do. The skills I use most are: language, cultural knowledge, and diplomacy. My immediate boss and I are the only people in the company who speak Mandarin so our daily goal is to keep communications between our teams in China and the U.S. as smooth, positive, and productive as possible.

Incidentally, I met my current employer in a Chinese language class at UCSB. He was auditing the course and halfway through gave me a job offer. It's a good reminder to always come to class organized and prepared, you never know who you might meet.

XZ: Do you like what you are doing?

AV: I love it. The best part of my job is having the opportunity to travel to China and meet fascinating people from all walks of life. Also, knowing Mandarin is enough of a niche skill (for now!) that I am allowed the freedom to work from home while also receiving good benefits and pay - ideal for a new mom.

XZ: Thinking back, what have you learned the most from our program? Why did you choose a non-academic path?

AV: When I returned to Santa Barbara after spending a year in China I discovered a void in the labor market, namely, organizations that desperately needed employees who understood both the U.S. and China. You can't imagine how many people have said to me: "it is so difficult communicating with our partners in China, we could really use someone like you!" I've heard this from friends with start ups, people in the non-profit world, and even those working for corporations listed on the stock exchange. I have always loved business so once I discovered this demand, I knew I wanted to take on the challenge.

I do miss academics, but consider myself a lifelong learner and continue to read and audit classes in my free time. My husband and I are currently taking an astronomy class at our local planetarium.

What I learned most from the program is that I don't know anything at all. It was an extraordinarily humbling two years for me. The experience taught me to be more open and less contracted around any particular set of ideas. The Romantic poet John Keats used the phrase negative capability to describe the ability to remain and thrive in uncertainty and mystery without grasping for facts. This has been an invaluable lesson.

XZ: Thanks a lot Allison for giving us this wonderful update! We are truly proud of you and are glad to know that you are doing so well. Please keep in touch!



Faculty Activities

Eunjin Choi had a year full of both challenge and inspiration, teaching five Korean Studies courses at UCSB. Her teaching focused on Korean popular culture and its relationship to films, dramas, and the Korean Wave (Hallyu). Particularly illuminating was the experience of seeing how Korean culture is perceived and reinterpreted by international students in the United States.

Over the past year, **William Fleming** published in several journals, including TDR: The Drama Review and the Journal of the American Oriental Society. He gave invited lectures at Yale University, Brandeis University, and Arizona State University, and was the 2019 A. Ph. Goldschmidt Fellow at the Rare Book School at the University of Virginia.

This year, **Sabine Frühstück** reflected on her twenty-plus years of teaching in an article titled, "The Future Is also a Different Country, and We Should Do Things Differently There: For an Ethics of Vulnerability" that has appeared in ASIANetwork Exchange: A Journal of Asian Studies for the Liberal Arts. The Japanese translation of her recent book, *Playing War: Children and the Modern Paradoxes of Militarism in Japan* (University of California Press) is now underway with Jinbun Shoin in Kyoto. Frühstück also tried her hand as curator of "Magical Boys and Girls of War," a series of images that were a component of an exhibition titled "New Mappings of Europe" and jointly created by the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna, the Museum of Modern Art Ljubljana, the Museum of Yugoslavia in Belgrade, and the Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art. Frühstück gave keynote addresses and invited talks at the Annual ASIANetwork Conference on Asia in Undergraduate Education in San Diego, Northwestern, Stanford, Yale, and the University of British Columbia among other institutions. She completed a term as Director of the East Asia Center where she was the PI on large multi-year grants from Japan Foundation and Korea Foundation. As chief editor of *New Interventions in Japanese Studies*, an open access book series of the University of California Press, she has begun to shepherd manuscripts towards the review process. Frühstück is currently finishing a book, "Gender and Sexuality in Modern Japan," contracted by Cambridge University Press, along with other ongoing projects.

There were several highlights for **Xiaorong Li** in the 2018-2019 academic year. First, her new book, *The Politics and Poetics of Sensuality in China: The Fragrant and Bedazzling Movement (1600-1930)*, was published in March of 2019 with the Cambria Press. Second, she conducted a successful archival research and field trip to Anhui, China during the summer of 2019, for her new project on Chinese literary history from a regional perspective. Third, she was invited to deliver a talk, "Women in Love: Passionate Women in Ming-Qing Chinese Literature," at the University of Granada, Spain. In addition to research and professional activities, she also designed a new course focused on Chinese love stories for the Comparative Literature Program at UCSB.

Thomas Mazanec had a very productive academic year, the centerpiece of which was the publication of a special issue

of the *Journal of Chinese Literature and Culture* that he co-edited, on "Digital Methods and Traditional Chinese Literary Studies." He was invited as a specialist lecture to Hong Kong Polytechnic University in the fall to deliver a talk on Buddhist poetry, and presented research from his next project, *Beyond Lyricism: Classical Chinese Poetry in Other Modes*, at international conferences in Denver and Macau. In addition to developing three new courses at undergraduate and graduate levels, he continued to revise his first book manuscript, *Poet-Monks and the Invention of Chinese Buddhist Poetry*.

In September 2018, **Fabio Rambelli** went back to Santa Barbara from Tokyo, where he was Director of the UCEAP Tokyo Study Center. He served as Chair of the Department of Religious Studies while keeping his joint appointment with the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies. In 2018, he published an edited volume titled *The Sea and the Sacred in Japan: Aspects of Maritime Religion*. (Bloomsbury), for which he wrote a general introduction and a chapter "Sea Theologies: Elements for a Conceptualization of Maritime Religiosity in Japan." He also served as guest editor of a special issue of *Japanese Religions* titled *Facets of "Shinto" in the Muromachi Period*, where he also contributed the article "Shintō as a 'World Religion': A Muromachi Construct and Its Aftermath." In 2019, he published another edited volume, *Spirits and Animism in Contemporary Japan: The Invisible Empire* (Bloomsbury), where he contributed the introduction and a chapter. He also co-edited, with Jørn Borup, a special issue of *Japanese Religions*. In addition, he published three peer-reviewed articles and book chapters: "The Myth of the South Indian Iron Stupa (Nanten tettō) in Japanese Esoteric Buddhism," in *International Journal of Buddhist Thought & Culture*; "Sacred Objects and Design in Buddhism," in *Encyclopedia of Asian Design*, edited by Christine Guth (Bloomsbury); and "Itō Shōshin: The Role of Buddhism in Emperor Worship," in *The Buddhism of the Pure Land: A Thematic Anthology of Primary Sources*, edited by Giorgios Halkias and Richard K. Payne (University of Hawaii Press). Rambelli has continued to work on his new research project on the cultural history of Gagaku, the ceremonial music of the Japanese imperial court and large religious institutions, with special focus on the shō (mouth organ), an instrument he has studied at Ono Terusaki Shrine in Tokyo with two acclaimed masters. He was invited to give lectures on Gagaku and the shō at Bard College Graduate Center (New York), Harvard University, University of Southern California, and Stanford University. He also delivered a keynote address at the Tokyo University of Foreign Studies, Trans Pacific Collaborative Online International Learning Kick-off Symposium in March 2019.

Kuo-ch'ing Tu continues to pursue his vision of introducing Taiwan literature to international audiences as the Lai Ho and Wu Cho-liu Endowed Chair and Director of the Center for Taiwan Studies. In January 2019, in collaboration with Korea University, he hosted the "World Literatures in Chinese: Transnational Perspectives of East Asian Cultures" conference

Continued on page 20. See [Faculty Activities](#).

K. C. Tu, Director

January 2019 Chinese Course 138: Special Topics in Taiwan Studies, Sponsored by CTS

To carry out the Visiting Scholars Program, the Chinese 138 series, Special Topics in Taiwan Studies, was first offered in Spring 2013 and has subsequently been offered every year by the Center for Taiwan Studies. It features a range of scholars from different fields in the humanities and social sciences, including history, languages and literatures, anthropology, political science, and sociology. These scholars are invited to give lectures on various topics in Taiwan Studies. In order to interest more scholars in Taiwan Studies at UCSB, we have tried to make this course a co-teaching project with several guest lecturers, each for two sessions, working together to enrich the content of the curriculum through academic collaboration.

The CHIN 138B, Special Topics in Taiwan Studies, was first offered in Spring 2013. It focused on Taiwan's domestic politics, as well as international relations. Therefore, the course employed the lenses and tools of social science to examine various political, cultural, and social processes and phenomena related to politics in and around Taiwan.

For the academic year 2018–2019, Chinese 138B (Enroll Code: 59733, Mondays and Wednesdays, 2:00-3:15pm, with 39 students enrolled) was offered in Winter 2019 as an interdisciplinary course.

Professor Kuo-ch'ing Tu gave the following lectures: "General Introduction" and "Historical background and Taiwan as a Subject of Study."

The guest speakers and topics are listed as follows:

Guest Speakers and Topics

- Vincent Wang, School of Humanities and Sciences, Ithaca University, "Taiwan's Domestic Politics" and "Taiwan's External Relations"
- Pei-yin Lin, School of Chinese, The University of Hong Kong, "Modern Girl in Print Media of 1930s Taiwan"
- Terry Russell, University of Manitoba, Department of East Asian Studies, "Indigenous Peoples and Identity" and "Placement and Displacement: Hakka Diaspora and Indigenous"
- Julia Huang, DePaul University, Anthropology, "Global Expansion of Taiwan Buddhism"
- Amy Liu, University of Texas, Government, "Evolution of the Taiwanese Identity"

- Yao-yuan Yeh, University of St. Thomas, Department of International Studies, "Taiwanese Folk Religion: Origins, Gods, Practices, and Divinity"
- Tsung Chi, Occidental College, Department of Politics, "Examining the US-China-Taiwan Triangular Relations through the Lens of Geo-Politics"
- Hong Guo-juin, Duke University, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, "New Taiwan Cinema: Modernization in Question" and "Post-New Taiwan Cinema: History and Retrospection"
- Leo Ching, Duke University, Asian and Middle Eastern Studies, "From Pro-Japan (親日) to Affect-Japan (萌日): Taiwan's Postcolonial Condition"

Students' Evaluation of the Course

When asked about the overall quality of the instructor's teaching, 57% responded "excellent," 32% responded "very good," and 11% responded "good." When asked to rate the overall quality of the course, including its material or content, student response was Excellent-69%, Very Good-24%, and Good-7%. 61% found the course "almost always" stimulating, and 35% found it "usually" stimulating. In short, students found Chinese 138b to be extremely informative about Taiwan's culture, history, and politics.

CTS Sponsored Activities Sept 2018-June 2019

1. October 2018

Speaker: John Fuh-sheng Hsieh, Professor in the Department of Political Science, University of South Carolina
Lecture Title: "Equilibrium (or Lack Thereof) in the U.S.-China-Taiwan Relations"

This talk explored the roles played by China, Taiwan, and the U.S. in the cross-strait relations, and demonstrated how the unitary actor model has to be modified in order to account for the dynamics of this triangular relationship. It is shown that when the moderate Kuomintang (KMT), a subnational actor, gains the governing power in Taiwan, it is the median voter in the cross-strait relations game at the international level, while as a non-traditional KMT (like the KMT in the later years of President Lee Teng-hui's term in office) or the Democratic Progressive Party is in power, it is the U.S. that becomes the median voter. Equilibrium differs, depending upon which party is in power in Taiwan.

2. January 2019

2019 UCSB Conference: "World Literatures in Chinese: Transnational Perspectives of East Asian Cultures"

CTS hosted a conference in collaboration with the BK21 Plus Education & Research Group for Chinese & Japanese Language and Culture, Korea University, held on January 24–26, 2019, at UCSB. The theme is broadly described as "World Literatures in Chinese: Transnational Perspectives of East Asian Cultures" to explore literatures written in Chinese that have developed in East Asia and under the influences of Chinese cultural sphere in the past as well as widely spread over the world today since the last century. The research interests focused on the following areas:

- A. Classical Chinese Literature and Culture;
- B. Modern Chinese Literature / Culture and Film Studies;
- C. Chinese Linguistics and Cultural Studies in Contact with Foreign Cultures;
- D. Sinophone Literature or World Literatures that reflect Chineseness;
- E. Comparative Studies of Writers and Major Works from China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Southeast Asia and other Regions of the World;
- F. Cultural Interflow and Intertextuality of Chinese Literary Works in East Asia or Between East and West.

Graduate students, postdoctoral researchers, and junior scholars were particularly encouraged to present their current works and research prospectus. The Center for Taiwan Studies provided logistical support and arranged travel, transportation, meals, and lodging.

Opening remarks were made by Professor Katherine Saltzman-Li, Chair, Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies, UCSB; Professor Younki Hong, Vice Director, BK21Plus Education & Research Group, Korea University. A memorial plaque was presented by Professor Younki to CTS. Further introductions were made by Kuo-ch'ing Tu, Director of CTS, and Yeongmee Shin, Research Professor, BK21Plus Education & Research Group, Korea University. Dongchion Zang, Professor, Korea University, gave the keynote speech "Another Kind of Korean Fad, Another Kind of Feeling: Cultural Revolution Narrative in Chinese Films of the New Century and the Remaining Images of North Korean Films."

Four panels "Modern Chinese Poetry and Classical Tradition," "Chinese Language Studies," "Postcolonial and Transnational East Asian Culture Studies," and "Western Literary Trends and Modern Chinese Literature" were held.

3. February 2019

At the lecture of Obscured History, Romanticised Memory, Professor Liza Wing Man Kam spoke about concepts of heritage, history and memory through investigating three urban scenarios and Hengchun— an extremely popular tourist sightseeing spot known as 'Aka's House' fabricated after the popular Cape No. 7 film and its sequel; the discreet and non-captioned/explained Japanese colonial relics laying all over the old town; and the Western Gate of the Old Town embedded with its obscured history of the thousands of Taiwanese soldiers called into the army to fight for the Japanese during the Second World War.

4. February 2019

We had a screening of the Taiwanese film, "Forever Love" on Friday, February 1, 7:00 P.M. at the Student Resources Building, Multipurpose Room!

5. April 2019

The Test of Chinese as a Foreign Language (TOCFL) was held at UCSB on Saturday, April 13, 2019 from 10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. Students Test results:

Novice 2: Luis Gregorio Velasco Lopez

Level 1: Zachary Joseph / May Lo / Elizabeth Alvarez / Gregorio Daniel Campuzano

Level 3: Ivy Liu / Zachary Stephen Belgium / Sally Li / Sarah Veeck / Shereen Mohamed El-rafaï

6. June 2019

Chinese Language Program Outstanding Students Award Ceremony

2019 Huayu Enrichment Scholarship recipients:

Zachary Stephen Belgium

Gregorio Daniel Campuzano

Annie La

Shereen Mohamed El-rafaï

William Schwartz

Sarah Veeck

Elizabeth Alvarez

2019 CTS Excellence in Chinese Learning Award Prize (\$200)

S. Li A. Balogh-Zanin

D. Taylor

N. Pang

L. Zhou

Words From the Chair

Continued from page 3.

grateful for the many wonderful years of department development and growth I have had the honor to lead. Not only have we grown and strengthened existing department programs and goals, but several new hires have added to the luster of our faculty: one after another, William Fleming, Thomas Mazanec, Hangping Xu – scholar of modern Chinese Literature, who just completed his first year in EALCS – and just this month, Suma Ikeuchi – scholar of Japanese anthropology and contemporary transnational Japanese studies, whose hire was supported by an institutional grant from the Japan Foundation – have joined us. While the passing of Professor Hyung Il Pai and the retirement of Professor John Nathan are still keenly felt, the department has moved into a vibrant period of renewal, filling our ranks and bringing in new areas of expertise. The recent hires and the continuing excellence in research and other activities of our longer-term faculty, as described in the following pages, enables us to maintain our national and international stature as a leading research, teaching, and mentoring department in interdisciplinary East Asian Studies. Our strong reputation has in turn continued to attract excellent graduate students and growing numbers of undergraduate majors and minors.

I am delighted to turn the leadership of the department over to Professor Mayfair Yang, a very distinguished scholar of Chinese anthropology and religion. Professor Yang will take up her duties beginning in Winter 2021. Meanwhile, Professor Fabio Rambelli has more than generously agreed to act as Interim Chair, even as he Chairs the Department of Religious Studies. EALCS is in excellent hands moving forward into what should be another very challenging year. Please enjoy the reports and articles in the following pages, and please follow our activities in the year ahead through social media and visits to our department website. My very best wishes to all for good health, safety, and stimulating work in the year ahead.

Chinese Language Program

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Festival banquet to celebrate Chinese New Year in February. The event catered dinner of Chinese dishes for the 120 people in attendance. Students from our Chinese classes gave various performances of Chinese song singing, instrument playing and “Rao-kou-ling” (tongue twister).

Summer China Trip

The 2019 summer China trip was led by our senior lecturer Bella Chen. 14 students spent 2 weeks at Shandong University. In addition to taking Chinese language class, students participated in various lectures in Chinese history and culture. They also traveled to Beijing, Shanghai, and Qufu, which is a city in China’s Shandong province and is known for being the hometown of Confucius.



International Conference of Chinese Language Teaching and Research

With great support from sponsor UCSB Confucius Institute, co-sponsors Chinese Language Teachers’ Association of Southern California and College of International Education at Shandong University of China, the Chinese Language Program successfully organized the 1st International Conference of Chinese Language Teaching and Research on November



10 -11, 2018. There were over 100 language professionals from China, Taiwan, Singapore, Russia, Australia, Canada and USA attending with 71 papers presented during this one and half day conference.





Japanese Language Program

Continued from page 5.

lecturers to see what and where students' passion with Japanese language takes them beyond their classrooms.



End-of-year Arigatoo Party: Celebrate students' achievement

All the students in the Japanese language courses were invited to the End-of-year Arigatoo Party on Friday, May 31 to celebrate their achievement for the year. Kirsten Sakaguchi was awarded the 2018-2019 Mochizuki Memorial Award for outstanding student for her excellent performance. 17 students were awarded the Excellence Award and 6 graduating seniors (Kirsten Sakaguchi, Karena Serrato, Simranjot Singh, Zhixin Xu, Guangrui Cai, and Katherine Ngyuen) honorably joined the Japanese National Honors Society for their outstanding academic performance in the Japanese language courses throughout their college years.

おめでとう！

Mochizuki Memorial Award
Kirsten Sakaguchi

Japanese National Honors Society
Kirsten Sakaguchi
Karena Serrato
Simranjot Singh
Zhixin Xu
Guangrui Cai
Katherine Ngyuen

**Excellence Award
◀First-Year Japanese▶**
Zhang, Hanyu
Timo Roberts
Su, Tsai Tzu
Cheng, Nora
Du, Ronghao

Congratulations!

**Excellence Award
◀Second-Year Japanese▶**
Wu, Jiayu
You, Dajian
Yang, Zhengyuan
Felix Han
Lexie Wang
Lu, Lu

**Excellence Award
◀Third-Year Japanese▶**
Geng, Wenxi
Michael Dong
Ruby Bruder
Karena Serrato
Gianna Navarro
Lyon Zhou

East Asia Center

Continued from page 6.

24 January 2019

Professor Thomas Lamarre

East Asian Literature, McGill University

The Media Region: Transnational Adaptation as Subjective Technology

25 January 2019

EAC Graduate Student Conference 2019: Imaging East Asia

26 January 2019

Professor Ellen van Goethem

History, Kyushu University

Commemoration and Deification: The Creation of Heian Jingu

11 February 2019

Professor Charles Kim

History, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Textures of the Past: Nostalgia and Therapeutic Narratives in Contemporary South Korea

20 February 2019

Professor Seishi Karashima

Religious Studies, Soka University-Tokyo

Buddhism as a Cultural Bridge between India and China

12 April 2019

Professor Tansen Sen

Center for Global Asia, NYU Shanghai

Temple Heritage of a Chinese Migrant Community: Movement, Connectivity, and Identity in the Maritime World

24 April 2019

Professor Jisoo Kim

History, George Washington University

Crime of Violence: Forensic Medicine, Dead Bodies, and Criminal Justice in Chosŏn Korea

8 May 2019

Professor Jamal Elias

Religious Studies, University of Pennsylvania

Constructing Childhood in West Asian Societies: A Visual Journey

29 May 2019

Professor Paola Zamperini

Asian Languages and Cultures, Northwestern University

Specters of Incest in Eileen Chang's Heart Sutra (1943)

30 May 2019



"The Window of Peace:" A sculpture in the So-yi Mountain Peace Ridge Park, the decommissioned site of the U.S. "Raider" battalion bunker in Cheolwon County, South Korea, from which one can see the DMZ and into North Korea. Courtesy of Eleana Kim.

Confucius Institute

Continued from page 8.

recounted her efforts to dig up the lost story of this woman whose film won the first Oscar for best documentary film, but very few traces of her remain in the records and archives.

April 11, 2019

Confucius Institute welcomed **Prof. Vincent Goossaert**, a sinologist from the *École Pratique des Hautes Études*, in Paris, France who gave two lectures. The first event was part of our China Studies Forum series, in which faculty and graduate students had previously read Prof. Goossaert's paper, and then met with him discuss it. The paper was titled, "Competing Eschatological Scenarios during the Taiping War: 1851-1864." It addressed the millenarian discourse, not of the Taiping rebels, but the gentry and officials who were fighting the rebels. The second lecture, "The Heavenly Masters of Daoism," traced a history of the *longue durée* of Dragon Tiger Mountain (Longhushan), the Daoist religious capital, from its founding from the third century CE to the Qing Dynasty. An important finding was the important role of merchants in the history of this religious center.

April 24, 2019

The Confucius Institute co-sponsored the visit of Prof. Tansen Sen, Director of the Center for Global Asia at New York University in Shanghai, who gave a lecture titled, "Temple Heritage of a Chinese Migrant Community." The lecture traced the history of Chinese migrants from Guangdong Province who settled in coastal communities of India and Malaysia in the 19th century to the present, and recounted their interactions across the seas. The main sponsor was the East Asia Center.

April 29, 2019

Our visiting Chinese language lecturer from Shandong University, Mr. Meng Chen, took charge of organizing this one-day event: the **United Nations Chinese Language Day**, held to celebrate the learning of Chinese language as a major global language. Students dropped by the Confucius Institute Conference room for lessons in Chinese calligraphy, Chinese chess, and Chinese tea ceremony.

May 1, 2019

Confucius Institute co-sponsored the visit of Prof. Lisa Rofel, Anthropology Department, at UC Santa Cruz with the Global Studies Department. She gave a lecture titled, "Feminist Theory Redux: Neoliberalism's Public/Private Divide in Contemporary China." She talked about her new book on the Milan fashion industry and their global connections with the silk industry in China.

September 1-19, 2019

Summer School in China for UCSB students. This was the fourth annual Summer School program that sent 15 UCSB students to travel and study Chinese language in China. The students paid their own roundtrip airfares and their 5 extra days in Beijing and Shanghai, but the Office of Hanban in Beijing, which oversees all 500 Confucius Institutes in the world paid for the domestic travel, room and meals, and instructors and tour guides when the students took classes at Shandong University and traveled to Qufu, the ancient hometown of the sage Confucius. China in a Eurasian Context." The event was co-organized by Anthony Barbieri-Low of UCSB's History Department, Lothar von Falkenhausen of UCLA, and the Confucius Institute. The History Department provided some co-sponsorship funds. The keynote address was delivered by Dame Jessica Rawson of Oxford University. Another keynote speaker was Qingbo Duan, an archaeologist at Northwest University in Xi'an, China. Min Li, an archaeologist at UCLA also served as discussant. The papers all addressed the hitherto neglected intercultural flows that crisscrossed China, Central Asia, and the Middle East in ancient times between the eighth century BCE and the fifth century CE. Five papers were presented by Ph.D. students at UCSB, University of Chicago, UCLA, and McGill University. Non-China scholars of the ancient world, such as Beth Diger, Brice Erickson, and Peter Wells provided valuable discussion and commentary.

On April 23rd, we organized another Chinese language competition to commemorate the United Nation's "Chinese Language Day." Students gave speeches in the Chinese language on such topics as "My Favorite City," "My Study Trip to China," and "Famous Historical Personages in Chinese History."

On May 17th, we invited Richard von Glahn from the UCLA

History Department to give a lecture titled "Twelfth to Fourteenth Century Commercial and Cultural Exchange between China and Japan." We were glad to have so many UCSB faculty show up for the discussion. von Glahn also met separately with a few Ph.D. students who are interested in the history of Sino-Japanese religious and economic interactions.

Furthermore, the Confucius Institute organized our third year of summer school in China, held July 14-August 1, 2018. Eighteen UCSB students embarked on this exciting trip that included three days visiting the sites in Beijing, then two weeks of Chinese language and cultural studies at Shandong University, a visit to Qufu, Confucius' hometown, and a two-day visit to Shanghai. Upon their return in the Fall Quarter 2018, the students can receive course credit for their study by enrolling in Chinese 180 and turning in a written assignment and giving an oral class presentation. The two weeks at Shandong University, including instruction, accommodations, domestic transportation, and meals were covered by the Office of Hanban in Beijing.

Finally, the Confucius Institute also awarded a travel grant to Henning von Mirbach, a Ph.D. candidate in History of Art & Architecture Department, for archival research and study of paintings and calligraphies by the 17th-century Chinese painter Fa Ruozen at the Cleveland Museum of Art and the New York Metropolitan Museum.

The Writ of the Three Sovereigns

Continued from page 9.

simultaneously prove your expertise in the premodern field and connect with scholars in other disciplines. Given the textual nature of premodern research, it's essential to find a specific text and focus on it—the primary source needs to be focused and circumscribed. Then if there are related texts, such as commentaries or parallels, you can add those in for comparative purposes. The study of the primary source becomes a case study of a broader argument with more theoretical aspects. I also think that it is vital to always go back and improve your translation. The ideal would be that you don't stop if you don't have to.

SS: What are your plans for your next project?

DS: I intend to publish an annotated translation of the Daoist scripture *Wuneng zi* (*Master Incapable*) in French and English. In the introduction, I describe the utopia depicted in the text as a form of conservatism since it marks going back to the perfect past. Translations are not so well respected in our field, but they provide an excellent venue to introduce scholarly works to the public. My other, larger project is to reconstruct the dialogue between Europe and China from the seventeenth to the nineteenth century, especially the influence of Chinese religions on Enlightenment scholars. From the seventeenth century on, many missionaries went to China, recorded and published lots of accounts about Chinese religions. Despite missionaries' preference for Confucianism as a "civil cult," European scholars also took things from Daoism and Buddhism. The Daoist concept of "non-doing" (*wuwei*), for example, influenced the formation of the term "invisible hand." Things we take for granted as Western practices now may have originated from the interactions, misreadings, or misinterpretations of Chinese concepts.

Faculty Activities

Continued from page 13.

at UCSB. In July of 2019, the 44th volume of the journal that he has edited and published for more than two decades, *Taiwan Literature: English Translation Series*, came out with a special issue dedicated to English translations of his poetry, essays, and critiques. This special issue demonstrates his contributions to poetic theory and practice, especially the manner in which he has combined Eastern traditions with Western Modernist notions. Essays from a number of prominent scholars included in the volume provide extensive theoretical narration of his poetic practice. In addition, a volume of his collected essays, *Pushing Open the Window, Gazing at the Moon*, was published by National Taiwan University Press in August 2019. This prose collection consists of two parts which reveal the relationship between life and the outside world. The external chapters, "Pushing Open the Window," review scenery outside a window projected through the lens of translations. They include the literary activities of a poet and translator. The internal chapters, "Thoughts Conjured up While Moon Watching," describe the inner world of life and spirit, including associations with, and memories of, contemporary writers and fellow poets. There are also explorations of nature's mystery by the creative mind, and reflections on the secrets of poetic art.

Hangping Xu had a transitional but fruitful academic year as he assumed his first faculty position immediately following the completion of his doctoral degree. He published his research in major journals, including an article on Mo Yan and world literature in *Modern Chinese Literature and Culture*, a co-edited special issue on disability and internet literature in *Chinese Literature Today*, and his Chinese translation of a research article on vernacular happiness by Haiyan Lee in *Journal of Jinan University*. Apart from presenting his work at ACLA and AAS annual conferences, he was an invited speaker at the ACIAC Emerging Scholars' Forum, Sydney, Princeton in Beijing, and the Humanities Center at National Sun Yat-Sen University, Taiwan. He taught courses on Chinese literature and film and directed four senior projects on topics ranging from science fiction to queer and crip studies. Currently, he is completing his first book manuscript, *Broken Bodies as Agents: Disability Aesthetics and Politics in Modern Chinese Culture and Literature*.

Mayfair Yang submitted the final manuscript of her next book, *Re-enchanting Modernity: Ritual Economy & Society in Wenzhou, China*, to Duke University Press for publication in 2020. The book is the result of 25 years of fieldwork on the resurgence of economic, religious, and ritual life in rural and small-town Wenzhou, on the coast of China. She also published an article in Chinese in an academic journal in China: 《禮物與宴會的兩個邏輯：中國和西北海岸譜係》 ("Two Logics of Gifts and Banquets: Genealogies in China and the Northwest Coast") in 《西北民族研究》 (*Northwest Ethnological Studies*). It discusses two theories of gift-giving and ritual sacrifice by Marcel Mauss and Georges Bataille, and their relevance to the ritual life of ancient China and the Northwest Coast indigenous cultures of North America. She also published an article in the prestigious academic blog *The Immanent Frame* called "Millenarianism in the Soviet Union and Maoist China." Two additional publications are: "Chinese Maritime Economy: Historical Globalizing Forces" in *China, India and Alternative*

Modernities, edited by Kumar et.al. (Routledge), and "My Father's Hometown, 1982" in *China Tripping: Encountering the Everyday in the People's Republic*, edited by Jeremy Murray et.al. (Rowman & Littlefield). Yang is currently expanding and revising a new book manuscript titled: *Religious Environmentalism in the Age of the Anthropocene: Potentialities and Actualities in China and the U.S.* She is preparing to teach a new Freshman Honors seminar on this same topic in 2020. Besides conducting fieldwork in Wenzhou, China, in October 2019, Yang also gave keynote lectures and presentations at: Kyunpook National University, South Korea; Xiamen University, China; Association for Asian Studies Meetings, Denver; Université Libre de Bruxelles, Belgium; New York University, Shanghai; and Columbia University, New York City.

In addition to her teaching and advising, **Hsiao-jung Yu** completed two major projects in the past year. The first is a co-edited book with Guangshun Cao called *Languages Contact in the History of the Chinese Language, The Trend of Chinese Linguistics*, vol. 1 (Commercial Press of Beijing, and DeGruyter). The second is a co-authored database with Yifan Wang, Chinese (Mandarin) dictionary, part of the *Intercontinental Dictionary Series* edited by Mary Ritchie Key and Bernard Comrie (Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology).

In the year 2018-2019, **Xiaowei Zheng** published "Constitutionalist Pu Dianjun and His New Culture Movement" in a cutting-edge journal, *Journal of Modern Chinese History* and "The Literary Turn: An Introduction of the Special Issue on Ways of Writing the Taiping Civil War" in *Frontiers of History in China*. She has also finished a major piece in Chinese, "Autocracy and Republicanism," which will be published by Peking University Press in 2020. Her first book *The Politics of Rights and the 1911 Revolution in China* (Stanford University Press) has received wide accolades in the field of modern Chinese history, and she has been invited to give talks at prestigious research institutes globally: including University of California at Los Angeles, Stanford University, Ohio State University, Peking University and Tsinghua University in Beijing, Wuhan University and China Central Normal University in Wuhan, and Waseda University and Toyobunko Museum in Tokyo. She also has made major research progress for her second book project, *The Unfinished Mission: Constitutionalism in China*.



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