These are challenging and opportune times to be studying and teaching East Asian languages and cultures. As commentators have noted, East Asia today is the site of the world’s most dynamic economy, turns out “the world’s largest number of engineers,” and possesses “the world’s largest number of construction cranes”? It is also home to three of the languages classified as critical to U.S. national security.

The Center for East Asian Studies is fortunate to have received four additional years of Title VI funding, which will enable it to assist individuals to be more fully engaged in their study of this vital region. Marsha Haufler, interim director of the Center from January 2005 to July 2006, prepared the grant proposal for submission in a year in which the field was exceptionally competitive.

In 2006-07, with Title VI funds, CEAS is able to support OPI (oral proficiency interview) testing in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean, in addition to language tables, a lecture series in Japanese, and guest lectures by scholars on a range of East Asian subjects. Title VI makes possible instruction in Uyghur and Tibetan at both Elementary and Intermediate levels and courses in Mongolian history and culture. Title VI supports a fifth-year level Japanese language course on anime and manga, and a free Aikidō course taught in Japanese. It facilitated the creation of new courses with East Asian content in Architecture, Design, Communication Studies, Film, History, and Photography, and will enable KU to offer summer intensive Korean for the first time in 2007.

In August 2006, the Confucius Institute began offering Chinese language instruction to the local and regional communities. Its activities complement those of the Kansas Committee on International Education in the Schools, which promotes the teaching of critical languages in the state school system. A report on the recent accomplishments of both these organizations is contained in this issue.

In October, Leslie vonHolten, a new Program Assistant, came to Bailey Hall and quickly became an indispensable member of the Center’s team.

A very special highlight of the 2006-07 academic year is the presence at KU of former UN officer and Japanese diplomat Takao Shibata. Mr. Shibata spent six weeks at KU in the fall as Chancellor’s Lecturer and will return for a longer stay in the spring to give KU students a glimpse of the world viewed from the perspective of a professional diplomat.

In summer 2006 KU welcomed a new Provost, a new College Dean, a new Associate Dean of the College, and a new Associate Dean of Graduate Studies and Research in Journalism. Interviews with CLAS Dean Steinmetz and with Journalism’s Associate Dean Perlmutter on their views of international education are included in this issue, along with an interview with Professor of Law, John Head, who won the 2006 Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education.

This issue also includes information on new faculty members, a new joint degree program, East Asian art at the Spencer Museum, Center events, faculty research activities, and updates on alumni. If you once called Mt. Oread home, we urge you to stay in touch by logging on at www.ceas.ku.edu/alumni.

All of us at the Center extend warm wishes for a very happy Year of the Boar to everyone!

Elaine Gerbert
Rachel Wilson Graduates

In December, the Center’s dedicated student worker, Rachel Wilson, graduated with a B.S. in Business and Spanish. After four years working for the Center, Rachel is focused on new horizons in international business. Currently interviewing for jobs, she is hoping for a company that will utilize her Spanish language skills. She is also looking forward to filling her newfound free time with pursuits such as reading for pleasure, spending time with her family in Missouri, and traveling. “I’d really like to go to Argentina,” she said. She plans to enroll in an MBA program after a few years in the workforce.
Expanding Foreign Languages at KU
An Interview with Dean Steinmetz

Joseph Steinmetz assumed the position of Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences at the University of Kansas on July 1, 2006. He holds faculty appointments in the Department of Psychology and the Department of Molecular Bioscience. Prior to KU, Dean Steinmetz spent 19 years at Indiana University where he was the Eleanor Cox Riggs Professor of Psychology and was elected Distinguished Professor at Indiana in 2005. His research interests are in the general area of behavioral neuroscience, but he also has a deep interest in expanding international studies here at KU.

How do you see the future of foreign language study and area studies at KU?

KU has a rich tradition with the Title VI centers, language and culture studies, and foreign languages; it was one of the attractive things to me when looking at this position. With that said, I’d love to see international studies, both language and culture, enhanced across the board. That means enhancing the good things we already have, plus maybe developing some areas we don’t have here. We don’t have a presence in Middle Eastern studies, and given the state of the world, you just have to pick up the newspaper to see how this country needs people who are educated about the Middle East. That’s something we really need to address.

Most students entering KU choose Spanish as the foreign language they will take to fulfill the College’s foreign language requirement. That’s a national trend. That’s due to the exposure in high school, of course. One way we can change this trend in Kansas is to get a better delivery of other languages in K–12. Distance learning efforts such as the Confucius Institute’s attempts to expose Kansas high school students to Chinese is the kind of thing that may provide Kansas students with a variety of languages. This could help out the small schools in rural Kansas, where it’s very difficult to offer anything other than Spanish. They just don’t have the resources.

Are there things that the College can do to encourage entering freshmen to take less commonly taught languages at KU?

We could do a better job advertising what’s available. I think word has to get out that there is a variety of languages one may take, and I think we need to make sure students know that these exist.

How does the scope of international studies at KU compare with international studies at other universities in the Midwest?

We’re doing a lot on this front, with a lot of developments. Study abroad programs are very popular here, and I think the areas we are offering studies in are pretty encompassing. Every institution is pushing forward on this front, so that means we have to do a lot to remain competitive.

What areas of research and teaching would you like to see initiated or strengthened in the College?

Graduate studies in general. We have fine programs, but the sizes of these programs aren’t always where they should be. We should have more graduate students in many of our programs. As funding gets tighter and tighter, you tend to admit fewer and fewer students. To have a real high-quality graduate experience, I believe that you have to have a critical mass of students in each class, graduate colleagues who will go with you through the program. Where the numbers are really, really low, critical mass issues can hurt the viability of the program.

Has the globalization of information affected your own field of research in neuroscience, and how so?

In one respect: we pay more attention now to the neurosciences occurring in other parts of the world than we used to. It used to be that 99% or more of the exciting developments in neuroscience were developing in laboratories in this country. Now there’s a growing presence in countries like the Netherlands, Germany, France, England, Italy, Japan, and China. We have a lot more international studies students in my field than we used to, so that means we have students coming here, getting educated, then going to their home countries to work in these areas.

In what ways do you think current globalizing trends will change the nature of university education over the next 25 years?

The biggest thing is that we need to introduce—and this will happen—a bigger component focused on international studies and global studies. We need our students to realize that they’re competing in a world, not a single state or country, so I think there will be international components to many areas that will be strengthened and expanded to provide undergraduate and graduate students with the framework they need for their careers.

Is there anything you would like to invite the readers of this interview to reflect upon?

We should do a good job articulating why it’s important to concentrate on international studies. In states like Kansas, we tend to be somewhat insulated. We need to always be attempting to expand everybody’s world view.
David Perlmutter, Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, researches political communication, the history of war images, portrayals of police in the media, political blogs, and foreign correspondence. In 2007, his new book, Picturing China in the American Press: The Visual Portrayal of Sino-American Relations in Time Magazine, 1949–1973 (Rowman & Littlefield Press), will be published. Dr. Perlmutter discusses his research, his love of China, and the importance of international studies at KU.

What is the nature of your contact with China and East Asia?

Both of my parents are Sinophiles, so it’s in the blood. Most of us who study China have a romantic attachment with China. People who study China tend to think of themselves as optimistic friends of China. Not necessarily the particular government in power at the time; it’s just that we like China. We like the people, we like the culture, we feel strongly about it.

My most recent book looks at Time Magazine and its image treatment from 1949 to 1973, from the Communist Revolution to Nixon’s visit to China and its aftermath. The reason I picked that time is that we went from a view of China that was almost wholly negative to this supreme turnaround that occurred because of Nixon’s trip. I wanted to look at the treatment in photographs, cartoons, and maps.

Human beings are visual animals; the images we create are the metaphors for the beliefs that we hold. We tend to see what we want to see, and we create images that reflect the world as we want it to be. [Following the Communist Revolution], it was very interesting because there was almost no contact at the journalistic level. We had very negative relations with China, but the only photographs were provided by the Chinese government, so our enemy was providing the illustrations. It was a very strange and interesting time for understanding the relationship between pictures, beliefs, and politics.

Did you travel to China during your research of this book?

The China travel I’d done was during the dissertation portion of my research. Following the fall of the Soviet Union and the slight liberalization of the release of Chinese documents and archives, so much new information was appearing. I didn’t feel confident [publishing the book] 10 years ago when I had a lot of material, so I kept re-writing, starting over, and rewriting over the last 12 years. What happens is that the Soviet archives, the American archives, and the Chinese archives pretty much disagree on many major things.

Were there things that surprised you while researching your book?

I read everything about China from 1949 to 1973 in the Washington Post, Time Magazine, and Newsweek, every single story for 24 consecutive years. The most fascinating thing to me, when you read newspapers and magazines sequentially over time, with essentially a half century of hindsight, you realize how often we’re wrong. Literally you would see a story one week where “China experts agree that China will do this,” and two weeks later, China does the opposite. It’s incredibly humbling about so-called expertise. We social scientists and humanities experts need to be humble in predicting what is going to happen in war, politics, society, or economics. Journalists especially should be very wary about saying “the experts agree” on something that’s going to happen. From China’s entry into the Korean war to the fall of the Soviet Union, we so-called experts have a lot of red on our faces.

How do international studies fit into the picture of what you would like to do as the new Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research?

All great human problems and issues are multidisciplinary. No sociologist working alone, no China scholar working alone, no engineer working alone is going to solve anything that really matters to the survival of our species. I think that people should be interdisciplinary in their outlook and their experiences, as students and as teachers, as a matter of course. Specifically, we live in a world today where we have (a) a global economy, and (b) in order to achieve success in that economy on a personal and also a national level, we have to be international in our outlook and our experiences and...
our skill levels. I am appalled at the lack of language training not just in Kansas but in California or anywhere on the North American continent where we just don’t seem to get it. Our children need to start learning foreign languages, especially Chinese. You should teach your children two foreign languages, and I think Chinese should be one of them.

We have to decide as a society to make this a priority to prepare our children for their future. Most business people understand theoretically that they work with a German company or they have a plant in India or they’re getting all their manufactured goods from China. They understand, but we just haven’t figured out as a society how to apply it to ourselves or to our children. We’re really about 20 years behind the curve.

Has globalization affected the way in which graduate schools of journalism are preparing their graduate students, and if so, in what ways?

Not as much as it should. I’m hoping to have a much more international graduate program, but some of the problems are getting students to apply, visa issues, and funding. We’re trying to overcome that. We also need to have a projection in foreign countries.

I know a lot of KU students go abroad, and I recommend it for anyone. However, it’s an issue that when students go abroad they go to a very narrow range of countries, like England, and I think you can certainly get an international perspective going to England, but it would probably be more interesting to go someplace where you had to learn the language. I wish we had more exchanges with East Asian countries, especially. It would serve our students well to go to, say, South Korea and observe the unbelievable economic and technological miracle that a country like South Korea is.

Former Japanese diplomat Takao Shibata is on campus as the Chancellor’s Lecturer for the 2006–07 academic year. Trained as an economist, over the years Mr. Shibata has held positions at the United Nations and in Japanese embassies in Sweden, Pakistan, Zimbabwe, and Nigeria, as well as with the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations. He was also Assistant President of the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a UN organization based in Rome. Among his many assignments, he investigated agricultural conditions in North Korea and chaired the committee that drafted the historic Kyoto Protocol in 1997. He was Consul General of Japan in Kansas City between 2001 and 2004.

After participating on a panel discussion on North Korea before a large audience at the Dole Institute for Public Policy shortly after arriving at KU, Mr. Shibata lectured on Japan-China Relations and met with classes in the Anthropology, Communication Studies, EALC, Economics, and Political Science departments, in addition to giving presentations for five organizations at KU and in the Kansas City area. He will return to campus in the spring semester to teach a course for graduate students and to lecture and participate in conferences and workshops. Information about the course can be obtained by contacting the EALC department. His speaking schedule will be posted on the CEAS web site.
In your opinion, what are the trends in the field of international law, especially in regard to East Asia?

One trend is the explosive growth in the attention that U.S. businesses are giving to international business. That includes both commercial transactions and foreign investment, which means that the business of lawyers in this area is expanding. In terms of East Asia, China is an economic powerhouse from which lots of international business opportunities will come to the fore. What is often not noted is the enormous amount of intra-Asia trade that’s taking place now as well.

What are some of the big challenges for legal scholars and lawyers who are working with China today?

Certainly culture and language. Another challenge may be “legal-technological”—by that, I mean knowing how to use local legal systems, participate in them, and use the laws and regulations that are in place, not just at the national level, but at the local level as well.

Over the next two decades, what types of lawyers and law professors will be needed to meet the challenges posed by China, Korea, Japan, India, and other expanding economies in Asia?

Importantly, legal scholars who are at least familiar with the historical underpinnings of the current contemporary legal systems in those countries. In addition, they need an appreciation for the economic and social challenges that those countries face. For instance, there is a fine-tuned system of institutions, rules, limits, and requirements that go into making a banking “plumbing” system work, and most countries don’t have it yet. To understand that will be critical in the next 20 years.

Is the study and practice of law in Asia today changing? In what directions?

Japan is undergoing a wrenching change in its legal education system; over the next few years their law schools are going to look more like our law schools in some respects, with more of a practical emphasis and less of an academic emphasis. I understand that similar changes are being put into place in Korea as well.

What new fields in law are opening up in the United States as a result of globalization?

Intellectual property law. As businesses move into less economically developed countries, they’re hiring more lawyers who are experts in intellectual property law and protection to do everything they can under local law and in the context of bilateral investment treaties and other mechanisms to protect intellectual property rights. Also biotechnology law. Biotech industries are increasing in importance around the world.

Is it important for American lawyers to have international experience in this age of globalization?

Yes. I think everyone who comes through KU law school should strongly consider at least one
international or comparative law course, because increasingly, any lawyer in the United States, with very thin exception, is going to be exposed to international dimensions of problems.

What qualities go into making a good lawyer in the field of international law?

Curiosity is first and foremost. A lawyer needs to want to look behind the corner for possibilities in order to serve his or her client well. Also, creativity. A lawyer must be able to work in a cross-cultural context and work with the languages and modes of the culture and understand the culture’s significance of written contracts in order to put together and make successful the kinds of transactions necessary.

How are law schools in the United States changing to meet the new demands of the age?

At KU, we’re expanding our study abroad opportunities, inviting highly qualified foreign lawyers and law students, and implementing an overseas visiting scholar program. We have a two-year JD program for foreign lawyers, which is unusual in the United States. They must come here with a law degree already, and they can earn a JD from KU within two years.

What kinds of advantages might students enrolled in the new joint EALC MA–JD program have when they finish their degrees?

Students can gain background and expertise, making them very valuable as lawyers working in business and government. In the United States, not many lawyers speak Chinese, and probably fewer have studied East Asian languages and cultures and law at the same time, thus allowing the two courses of study to contribute to each other. EALC can contribute and enrich law practice, and law can contribute to how events play out in China, Korea, and Japan. It’s fascinating, with good results for lawyers down the road.

Jill Kleinberg
Associate Professor Emerita of Business

Business professor Jill Kleinberg retired in 2006, capping a 17-year teaching career at KU.

Her relationship with the University, however, stretched back to her undergraduate work. She earned bachelors degrees in history and East Asian studies from KU before pursuing her graduate education. From the University of Michigan, she earned her Master’s degree in Japanese studies and a doctorate degree in cultural anthropology.

Kleinberg’s doctoral dissertation focused on small household-based pottery enterprise in a Japanese village. As a visiting assistant professor at the University of California–Los Angeles, Kleinberg began research on large Japanese firms operating in the southern portion of that state. In all, she has lived in Japan for more than five years and has studied business and culture in Japan, China, and Mexico.

At KU, her teaching has included courses on comparative and cross-cultural management; Japanese organizational behavior; business, culture, and society in East Asia; China in transition; cross-cultural negotiation; and organizational ethnography. Her research primarily has revolved around emergent culture in bi-national organizations.

In 2005, Kleinberg’s interest in East Asian business inspired her to create the annual Jill Kleinberg Scholarship, which awards $1,000 to KU students pursuing double degrees in East Asian studies and business. The award funds either a study abroad experience or a business internship in an East Asian country.

Kleinberg now looks forward to writing about her most recent research interest: individual perceptions of cultural identity among persons working in multicultural organizations. She also will continue to work in her home garden, and will continue to engage in community service through the local Master Gardener program and the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate for children) program.
Faculty and Staff Awards

Bill Tsutsui, History, was promoted to Full Professor in 2006, and elected to chair the History department beginning January 2007.

Center for Teaching Excellence 2006 Faculty Appreciation Awards

Michael Baskett (Theatre and Film)
Elaine Gerbert (East Asian Languages and Cultures)
Dan Stevenson (Religious Studies)
Fiona Yap (Political Science), for innovative course design

CEAS Advisory Committee Awards

CEAS Faculty Service Award: John Kennedy (Political Science)
The CEAS Advisory Committee awarded Research Travel Grants to John Kennedy (Political Science) and Megan Greene (History).
Course Development Grants were awarded to Yan Bing Zhang (Communication Studies), Pok-Chi Lau (Design), and Michael Baskett (Theatre and Film).

Andrew Tsubaki Receives Japanese Emperor’s Award

Andrew T. Tsubaki, professor emeritus of Theatre and Film, was awarded one of Japan’s highest honors in November. Dr. Tsubaki was granted the Order of the Sacred Treasure (Zuihou Shojushou) in recognition of his lifetime devotion to using education to pass along the traditions of Japanese culture.

The award was presented Jan. 19 by the Consulate General of Japan at Chicago during the annual New Year’s gathering of the Greater Kansas City Japan-America Society. The Order of the Sacred Treasure was awarded to three Japanese natives this year. The two other recipients live in Thailand and Australia.

Dr. Tsubaki said he hopes this award will inspire others in the community to keep Japanese traditions alive.

The Center’s Jun Fu Wins KU Employee of the Month

Jun Fu, CEAS accountant, office manager, and staff supervisor, was honored as KU’s September Employee of the Month. Fu maintains records for the CEAS budget, Title VI and foundation grants, and the newly dedicated Confucius Institute on the Edwards Campus. In addition, Fu represents CEAS and the university in her duties as the Foreign Language and Area Studies fellowship coordinator, for which she reports to Washington. She also is an assistant for the China Kansas Asia Scholars Program, which takes her on student trips to China, and she is credited with playing a significant role in the establishment of the Confucius Institute.

Fu accepts her award from KU Provost Richard Lariviere.
Jin Yi, Economics

Jin Yi is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics. She earned her PhD in Economics from the University of Iowa, and her MA in Economics from the People’s University of China.

Jin’s major fields of concentration are macroeconomics, monetary economics, and international economics. She has conducted research as a visiting scholar at the China Center for Economic Research (CCER) at Peking University. Currently she is working on a series of papers investigating the effects of foreign aid on the growth of developing countries, including China, as well as research on the non-balanced growth in China’s state and private sectors.

In 2006, Jin attended three international conferences in Beijing. At KU, she teaches international finance, a course in which the 1998 financial crisis in East Asia is an important topic.

In her spare time, she enjoys reading history, detective stories, and ancient Chinese poems, as well as listening to music. She is developing a new interest in the Chinese traditional Kun Qu, a completely different opera from the Peking Opera.

So-Min Cheong, Geography

So-Min Cheong is an Assistant Professor of Geography. She earned her PhD in Geography from the University of Washington at Seattle. Her dissertation examined the causes and impact of global environmental change on Korean fishing communities, as well as the failure of state revitalization projects to sustain community-based resource management.

Cheong’s research focuses on relationships between humans and the environment, economic geography, science and policy, coastal environment, and East Asia. Her research has been published in journals such as Coastal Management, Environmental Management, Marine Policy, and Annals of Tourism Research.

Her research also examines the question of governance. Cheong sees the need for integrated management that involves stakeholders beyond the local government and local resource management institutions as particularly important. Her work looks at the role of both formal and informal institutions across different geographic scales, and she has used theories on institutions, property rights, common resource management, and environmental justice to understand environmental governance.

Cheong taught the new course, East Asian Geography, in Fall 2006.

Robert Fiorentino, Linguistics

Robert Fiorentino, Assistant Professor in Linguistics, received his PhD from the University of Maryland with his dissertation titled “Lexical Structure and the Nature of Linguistic Representations.”

Fiorentino studied under an EAPSI grant at Hiroshima University, where he designed and implemented studies on the processing of Japanese complex words by using masked priming, cross-modal priming, and fMRI imaging techniques.

His research interests include integrating linguistic theory, psycholinguistics, and neurolinguistics (including the application of state-of-the-art brain imaging techniques to linguistic research) in order to investigate the basic nature of linguistic representations and the operations they undergo and how these ingredients of language are neurally implemented and recruited in real-time processing. His research mainly involves the linguistic domains of morphology and semantics, and his primary languages of research are English and Japanese.

Fiorentino has published articles in journals such as Language and Cognitive Processes and Cognitive Brain Research.
Johnny Kim, a new Assistant Professor of Social Work, completed his PhD at the University of Texas at Austin. He is a member of Phi Alpha, the National Honor Society for Social Work.

The author of numerous journal articles, Kim's research interests include school social work, community mental health practice with adults and families, culturally competent practice, substance abuse among adolescents, and advanced statistical methodologies. As teaching interests, he notes social work practice with Asian Americans, social justice and diversity, quantitative research methods, and generalist practice.

Kim's clinical experience includes roles as a school counselor at the Art Institute of Seattle, working with formerly homeless tenants as a housing stabilization specialist, and as an emergency room social worker.

In his spare time, Kim enjoys biking, snowboarding, and traveling.

Xingong Li is an Assistant Professor in Geography. He earned his PhD from the University of South Carolina at Columbia.

Li's research interests are geographic information management, visualization, analysis, and modeling; GIS applications in hydrology and water resources management; and holographic representation of geographic information. His research has been published in journals such as Cartography and Geographical Information Science, Transactions in GIS, GIScience and Remote Sensing, and Photogrammetric Engineering and Remote Sensing.

Currently, Li is working on optimizing best crop management practices within agricultural watersheds, as well as understanding snow and glacier runoff processes in an arid mountain watershed in China using GIS and remote sensing.

Ketty Wong, a musicologist and ethnomusicologist, earned her PhD in ethnomusicology from the University of Texas at Austin.

Wong is the recipient of numerous awards, including scholarships from the Fulbright Commission and the ex-USSR government, and Delta Kappa Gamma International Fellowship, the Dean’s Graduate Fellowship of the College of Fine Arts, and the Cullen Continuing Fellowship from the University of Texas at Austin.

In 2006, Wong assisted CEAS in hosting the shakuhachi player and ethnomusicologist David Wheeler and the opera singer Yukiko Iwasaki. Currently she is incorporating units on East Asian music and culture in her World Music class. Her family background is Chinese-Ecuadorian.

In his free time, Lee enjoys running SPSS, practicing yoga, and reading Harry Potter.
Faculty Updates

Nobleza C. Asuncion-Lande continues to do research in the area of intercultural communication, negotiation, and conflict. She spent the summer of 2006 at the East-West Center, Korea Studies Center, and the University of Hawaii to do research on the impact of globalization on the ethics of international corporate management in two Asian countries—the Philippines and Korea. The results of this study will be presented at the bi-annual convention of the Pacific Asian Communication Association (PACA) in January 2007. Asuncion-Lande was president of the PACA organization from 2000 to 2003.

Yong Bai gave a presentation—“Rapid Bridge Replacement Techniques,” based on the results of a research project sponsored by nine State Departments of Transportation—at Tongji University in Shanghai, China. He was appointed to a 3-year term as a member of the Academic Advisory Council in the Faculty of Civil Engineering, Chongqing University, China. In June, Bai made two presentations at Chongqing University. He served as a member of the Scientific and Technical Committee and a session chair for the CIB W99 International Conference on Global Unity for Safety and Health in Construction (Tsinghua University, China). In the Fall 2006, and with the help of associate professor Tom Glavinich, Engineering, Bai taught a newly developed course, CMGT 609 International Construction Management. Development of this course was sponsored by the International Programs, KU Graduate School, with the purpose of internationalizing the curriculum at KU.

Raj Bhala worked on a new edition of International Trade Law: Theory and Practice, which is used in 100 law schools in the United States and overseas and is translated into Vietnamese. He served as a consultant for DevCorp International (Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, and Manama, Bahrain), producing a report analyzing the legality of low-cost natural gas feedstock under WTO rules. Bhala worked to create a Master’s degree program in international trade law at UAE University (Al Ain, United Arab Emirates). In 2006, he became a member of the editorial advisory board for the Fordham Journal of International Law; gave presentations at the Thurgood Marshall School of Law, Texas Southern University, the Spencer Fane Law Firm (Kansas City, MO), and the University of Georgia School of Law. He also spoke on the subject of doing business in Islamic societies on “Up to Date,” a public radio talk show (KCUR 91.5).

Edward Canda conducted workshops on spirituality and transpersonal theory in social work for Southern Connecticut State University and on spirituality within the social work curriculum for Missouri State University. He co-published a book, Contemporary Human Behavior Theory: A Critical Perspective for Social Work. Canda published an article in the Journal of Social Work in Disability and Rehabilitation, as well as book chapters in The Therapist’s Notebook for Integrating Spirituality in Counseling: Homework, Handouts, and Activities for Use in Psychotherapy; the Oxford Handbook of Social Work in Aging; and the Strengths Perspective in Social Work Practice. He co-wrote a monograph, Health Through Faith and Community: A Study Resource for Christian Faith Communities to Promote Personal and Social Well-Being. Canda was an invited keynote speaker for the Third Mid Winter Spirituality Mini Conference at Arizona State University, and he also traveled to speaking engagements in Hong Kong; Ontario, Canada; Seoul, South Korea; Chuncheon, South Korea; Munich, Germany; and Kansas City.

Talain Chi presented “China’s Economic Reform and the Creation and Development of Business Groups: A Comparative Institutional Perspective” at the Journal of International Business Studies Emerging Research Frontiers Conference, San Diego, in November. From July 11 to 23, he directed a study abroad course for MBA students on Market Entry and Operation in China in Beijing and Shanghai. As community outreach, Chi presented “China’s Transition to a Market Economy” at the Economics Forum for the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College International Officer Program at KU in September.

Kelly H. Chong is currently on research leave with an advanced research fellowship from the Korean Foundation. In December 2006, she published “Negotiating Patriarchy: South Korean Evangelical Women and the Politics of Gender” in Gender and Society. She also published a chapter, “In Search of Healing: Evangelical Conversion of Women in South Korea,” in Christianity in Korea (University of Hawaii Press). Chong is currently working on the book manuscript Agony in Prosperity: Evangelical Women and the Negotiation of Patriarchy in Contemporary South Korea, which will be published by Harvard University Press.

Sanae Eda made two conference presentations in 2006: “Blogging: Not Just a Personal History—Application of Technology to Japanese Classrooms” at the 18th Annual Conference of the Central Association of Teachers of Japanese, and “Meeting the Needs of Advanced-level Learners of...
Japanese: Individualized Instruction” at the International Conference on Japanese Language Education.

**Sherry Fowler** is researching the development of the Six Kannon cult in Japan, with emphasis on recovery of its sculptures and how patronage changed from an elite to a popular practice. She presented “Accounting for the Six Kannon Cult in Japan” for the Yale University Council on East Asian Studies Colloquium Series. Fowler spent 3 months in Japan working on this project through the support of the Asian Cultural Council, Asian Art and Religion Fellowship. She presented a lecture at the Stanford Center in Kyoto and an on-site tour and lecture on the monuments of Kyoto’s Daihoonji for study abroad students from Pennsylvania. Fowler provided entries on Kannon paintings for the Hosomi Art Museum in Kyoto and an essay on Six Kannon that will be published in *Kannon Bosatsu: Beauty and Spirituality in Early Buddhist Art from Japan*. In Fall 2006, Fowler was a Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellow at the University of London.

**Marilyn Gridley** gave the keynote address for the Oklahoma Conference of Art Historians at the University of Oklahoma February 2006. She contributed several entries for the exhibition catalog *Guilfed Splendor: Treasures of China’s Liao Empire* (907–1125), which was published by the Asia Society in October. The catalogue is being translated into German for the exhibition when it travels to the Museum fur Ostasiatische Kunst in Cologne, Germany, and the Museum Reitberg in Zurich, Switzerland, in 2007.

**Jie Han** worked on 10 funded research projects; published seven peer-reviewed journal papers; and presented 11 peer-reviewed conference papers in Denver, Atlanta, Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Saga University and Yokohama, Japan. He was awarded the Bellows Scholar Award (School of Engineering, KU); Recognition Honor for Outstanding Contributions to the Organization of GeoShanghai International Conference 2006 (Department of Geotechnical Engineering, Tongji University, China); and Honorable Professor (Southeast University, China). He was an invited keynote lecturer for the XII Tensar International Sales Meeting (Lima, Peru); Spring Seminar of the Seattle ASCE Geotechnical Group, 23rd Annual Geotechnical Seminar (Geo-Omaha); and the 50th Annual Kansas Asphalt Paving Conference (Lawrence, KS). Sponsored by the National Science Foundation, Han led a group of five postdoctoral, graduate, and undergraduate students from KU and Delaware to attend two international conferences in Japan.

**John Head** received the Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education. Over spring break, he taught a graduate course on international financial institutions in Mexico, as well as a course on comparative legal traditions (including Chinese law) in the KU Law School’s summer program in Istanbul. Head published an article on banking law in developing countries, with special emphasis on fallout from the Asian Financial Crisis of the late 1990s; revised two books on economic law for use in Indonesia; presented a paper on indigenous peoples and international financial institution policy at the University of Missouri, Columbia; and is currently finishing a book on global business law. In addition, Head assisted the preparation of new foreign exchange regulations for Bangladesh under the auspices of an IMF-sponsored project. He was also elected Vice President and President Elect of the KU chapter of Phi Beta Delta (honor society for international scholars).

**John Kennedy** conducted training courses in social science research methods at Northwest University, Northwest University (Shaanxi), and Qinghai Nationalities University for the Northwest Socio-economic Development Center (NSDRC) in Xian. He spent 3 days in workshops and training at each university, then spent 5 days conducting village fieldwork in each province. His field research was on local governance at the village and township level and preparation for a survey examining the academic performance of children in poorer counties. Kennedy also set up a video recording of his Spring 2007 POLS 306 course on research methods for Mogadishu University (MU) in Somalia, which will be shown with a 1-day delay. MU and KU students will use the same textbook, and the students will also connect through e-mail to discuss the class and (hopefully) cross-cultural issues. This KU-MU model is similar to the model of social science research training Kennedy set up in Northwest China.

**Sang Hyun Kim**, EALC lecturer, graduated Summer 2006 with a dissertation entitled “Pushkin’s The Tales of Belkin: Formalist and Structuralist Readings and Beyond the Literary Theories.” The dissertation will be published as a book by the University of America Press at the end of this year. Kim’s book in Korean, *The Essential Guide to Writing English Research Papers* (Seoul), has been published in its seventh edition. In addition, five of Kim’s papers on Russian literature, culture, and folklore with interdisciplinary approaches were published in journals around the world, including Germany, the Netherlands, Austria, and the United States.

**Bill Lindsey** returned to Lawrence and to teaching this August from a 2-year fellowship stint spent in Japan under the auspices of the
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science. In the spring he published an article, “Ninpu no karada wo girie no kankyō ni suru koto,” in the journal *Hikaku Minzokugaku Kenkyū*. Lindsey’s book, *Fertility and Pleasure: Ritual and Sexual Values in Tokugawa, Japan*, is due out in December 2006 from the University of Hawaii Press. In Fall 2006, Lindsey taught REL 106 (Living Traditions of the East) and REL 509 (Religion In Japan).

Larry D. Martin continued to collaborate with the Institute for Vertebrate Palaeontology and Palaeoanthropology in Beijing, China, and with Northeast University in Shenyang, China. He visited Beijing for 2 weeks in June where he met with collaborators from both groups and presented an invited paper to the International Palaeontological Conference on the History of Vertebrate Paleontology in China. He was also in collaboration with a former student, Dr. Jong-Deock Lim (a KU graduate), who recently took over preparation of a long-range plan for the preservation and use of the Natural History Heritage of Korea. Martin also gave two papers at an astrobiology convention in Washington, DC, and was an invited feature lecturer on Chinese birds at the Kentucky Academy of Sciences meeting. Currently, Martin has four PhD students and one MA student, and in 2006 he published one book and five scientific papers.


Yoonmi Nam exhibited a solo show, “Everywhere and Here: Works on Paper” at the Haydon Art Center (Lincoln, NE), as well as group shows in Columbus, OH; Tokyo, Japan; and Lawrence, KS. She gave artist lectures and demonstrations of Japanese-style woodblock printmaking at the University of Nebraska and at Seika University in Kyoto, Japan. Nam served as a guest lecturer for Korean Contemporary Artists at the Art Forum at Emporia State University. She presented a paper for the Migration, Immigration, and Citizenship in a Global Context International Seminar for Faculty at the Office of International Programs for KU. Also at KU, Nam directed a gallery talk at the Spencer Museum of Art and spoke at a roundtable discussion prior to a KU Wind Ensemble performance. In 2006, Nam received a KU General Research Fund grant for “Reinterpretations of the Mustard Seed Garden Manual of Painting Through Drawings and Prints.”

David Perlmutter’s *Picturing China in the American Press: The Visual Portrayal of Sino-American Relations in Time Magazine, 1949–1973* has been accepted for publication by Rowman & Littlefield Press. It is a study of how print press photos, cartoons, and maps framed political perceptions of China in America’s leading newsmagazine from the Communist Revolution to President’s Nixon’s historic trip.

Eric C. Rath combined a sabbatical with a Hall Center Fellowship to work on a new book, *Food and Fantasy in Early Modern Japan: The Development of Japanese Cuisine*, which tells the role of inedible foods and of “conspicuous non-consumption” in the history of Japanese cuisine. He spent two months in Kyoto conducting archival research. Rath was an invited speaker for the Japan Foundation in Kyoto and the Midwest Japan Seminar. His publications include “Warrior Noh: Konparu Zenpō and the Ritual Performance of Shura Plays” (Japan Forum); “Godzilla Meets Super-Kyōgen, or How a Dinosaur’s Debut on the Classical Kyōgen Stage Saved the World” (In Godzilla’s Footsteps); and select translations of the 15th-century “Shijō School Text Saved the World” (In Godzilla’s Footsteps) and primary sources related to the history of noh theater. He also contributed 22 essays ranging from traditional Japanese theater, dance, and folk performance, as well as the principal essay on noh theater for the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Asian Theatre*. 

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Catherine Shenoy developed a working paper with a PhD student, Ying Jenny Zhang, called “Order Imbalance and Stock Returns: Evidence from China.” It will be presented in 2007 at the Sixth International Business and Economy Conference to be held in San Francisco. A version will be published in the Proceedings under the United States Library of Congress (ISSN 1537 2316). Her Applied Portfolio Management class continues to invest in several holdings in Hong Kong and China. These holdings constitute approximately one third of their $1 million portfolio and returned approximately 22% as of December 2006. Each semester, the class interacts with professional investors and the CEOs of the companies that they own in Hong Kong and China.

Woochan Shim is focusing her research on unmet needs among Korean elders for maintaining nonabusive marriages; she is starting in the Kansas City metropolitan area. Her research is geared toward expanding our understanding about culturally and spiritually/religiously sensitive prevention and intervention for minorities experiencing various types of domestic violence. In the fall semester, Shim teaches the diversity course for undergraduate social welfare students; the focus of the course is how racism, sexism, ageism, heterosexism, and other types of individual and institutional prejudice, oppression, and discrimination affect certain minority groups. She attempts to expand our students’ understanding about East Asian culture, religion, and spirituality.

Bill Tsutsui published two edited collections, A Companion to Japanese History (Blackwell) and, with Michiko Ito, In Godzilla’s Footsteps: Japanese Pop Culture Icons on the Global Stage (Palgrave Macmillan). His 2004 book Godzilla on My Mind was given the William Rockhill Nelson Award for Non-Fiction (for best book by a Kansas or Missouri author published in 2004) by the Writers Place and The Kansas City Star. He presented invited lectures at the University of Texas, Austin; Maricopa Community College; Hobart College; University of Colorado, Boulder; and Metropolitan State University, and was a featured speaker at the inaugural Kansas Book Festival in Wichita.

O. Fiona Yap published two journal manuscripts in 2006: “Agenda Control, Intraparty Conflict, and Government Spending in Asia: Evidence from South Korea and Taiwan” (Journal of East Asian Studies) and “A New Social Contract of Accountability? Lessons from Citizens’ Response to the Asian Financial Crisis in Taiwan, South Korea, Singapore, and Malaysia” (Whitehead Journal of Diplomacy and International Relations). Her book, Citizen Power, Politics, and the “Asian Miracle” received two positive reviews in the AEAN Economic Bulletin and the Asian-Pacific Economic Literature. Yap was one of three recipients of the 2005–2006 Center for Teaching Excellence’s (CTE) Teaching Innovation and Portfolio Award, served as co-director for the CTE’s New International Faculty Mentoring program, and was a member of the KU CTE’s Scholar committee. She was also a panelist on the Hall Center’s Globalization seminar series, “What Is Globalization? An Interdisciplinary Discussion,” directed by Joane Nagel and Susan Harris.

Perry Ernest Caldwell IV, MA Thesis: “Hunting the Xiezhai: Mythology, Methodology and an Alternate Explication of Fa,” EALC

Eric Eickhorst, MA Thesis: “Game Centers: A Historical and Cultural Analysis of Japan’s Video Amusement Establishments,” EALC

Li-Li Chiu, PhD Dissertation: “The Depictions of Lohan’s Journey Across the Water: The Complex Water-crossing Symbolism and Popular Culture in the Ming Dynasty,” History of Art

Deborah Colene Kidwell, PhD Dissertation: “Remembering and Forgetting War: Vietnam Memorials and Public Memory,” History of Art

Elizabeth J. Kindall, PhD Dissertation: “The Pilgrimage Paintings of Huang Xingjian (1609–73) in the Ming-Qing Transition,” History of Art

Norma Larzalere, PhD Dissertation: “Making a Place for Themselves: Pioneer Housewives in Tsukuba Science City, Japan,” Anthropology

Green Tea and Bamboo: The Botanical Bounty of East Asia

In 2006–2007 CEAS draws attention to the beneficent aspects of nature in a series of presentations and exhibits under the theme of “Green Tea and Bamboo: The Botanical Bounty of East Asia.” The fall season began in September when Murphy Lecturer Dr. Alfreda Murck (Central Academy of Fine Arts, Beijing) lectured on “Mangoes As Sacred Relics: Creation of a Symbol in the Cult of Mao,” to provide an informative historical background for the Spencer Art Museum exhibit of wax mangoes from the Mao era. The focus then turned to bamboo with an October lecture/demonstration on the traditional bamboo flute of Japan by ethnomusicologist David Wheeler of Boulder, Colorado. Next, Tom Huang (Art and Design) spoke to an overflow crowd on using bamboo in sculpture and furniture and demonstrated the art of stripping and shaping bamboo for use in Japanese basketry. Attention then turned to green tea with a lecture by Lester Mitscher, Distinguished Professor of Medicinal Chemistry, on the chemical effects of green tea on the cells of the human body. In November, Dale Slusser (Endowment Association), an instructor of Urasenke Chanoyu, spoke about the tradition and art of Chanoyu as Michiko Ito (East Asian Library) and Ayako Mizumura (Sociology), seated on tatami mats, demonstrated the roles of tea ceremony host and guest for a large crowd in the Malott Room. Lastly, in December, Rob Corser’s first-year graduate architecture students assembled, in a standing room-only Jury Room of the Architecture School, a teahouse that they had designed incorporating Japanese principles of design but combining bamboo with canvas, steel, and plywood to remain within the limits of the $1,000 budget they had been given to complete the assignment.

The upcoming spring season of the Boar will usher in more events centered around the themes of green tea and other East Asian botanicals.
As a maker and designer, bamboo is an intriguing material to me for a few reasons. First, it is a material rich in potential. It has an inherent beauty and diversity in its natural state. In traditional objects, there can be found a use for all of its individual parts. The range of traditional and non-traditional objects made possible through its manipulated form is seemingly endless. Its strength to weight ratio has strong implications for its potential as structural armature. As applied surface, there are endless variations possible in texture and pattern as illustrated through its extensive use in basketry, fencing, and architecture. Lastly, because of its longstanding traditional use and entrenchment in Asian culture, I'm intrigued by the cultural connotations this material brings. From the most delicate and ceremonial to the heroic and impossible, its beauty is both in its natural and untouched state and ultimately through its willingness to be manipulated: even as it is growing, the culms can be formed and trained to grow square in cross-section.

I'd like to make the disclaimer that I'm not a botanist or horticulturalist. I have a deep interest but I'm in no way a specialist in bamboo. I cannot claim expertise, but I'd like to share with you my passionate interest in this amazing plant.

Bamboo facts:
- Bamboo is a giant grass; there are 91 genera and over 1,200 species.
- Bamboo can be found growing natively from Northeast Asia, south throughout East Asia west to the Himalaya, and south to northern Australia. Bamboo is also found in sub-Saharan Africa and in the Americas from the southeast United States to Chile.
- Some species grow as fast as 4 feet in a 24-hour period; some species tower to 120 feet (12 stories).
- Whereas woodland forests increase 2% to 5% yearly in bulk (biomass), a bamboo grove grows 10% to 30%.
- Some species have been used in soil stabilization projects, as windbreakers, and in urban wastewater treatment projects.
- Bamboo shoots are edible. Medicinally, some species are used to treat asthma, as hair and skin salve, and as an aphrodisiac, but it can also be used as a poison.
- Thomas Edison found a sustainable filament for his light bulb by trying bamboo.
- It is used widely in the paper, pulp, building, and construction industries.
- Bamboo has been used to make bicycle frames, truck bodies, and railway carriages.
- It is a wood substitute and has a history in furniture production.
- Bamboo has a tensile strength superior to mild steel (withstands up to 52,000 pounds of pressure psi), and its strength to weight ratio surpasses that of graphite.
- Bamboo survived the atomic bomb at Hiroshima and provided the first re-greening after the blast in 1945.
- It is a material used in the everyday lives of millions of people, in thousands of places, and for thousands of years.

For gardeners and the neighbors of bamboo enthusiasts, it is important to know that there are two types of bamboo: sympodial (clumping) and monopodial (running). These are defined by their root structure. The sympodial species pose no threat to property lines. All successive culms have roots that branch in close proximity to the original root. Monopodial bamboo poses little threat if a root barrier is placed to encircle the desired grove area. Details for this installation can be found at www.bamboogarden.com.

As parting thoughts, an excerpt from David Farrelly’s The Book of Bamboo: “Bamboo Bridges: Appropriate Travel and Learning to Learn”:

The more rapid the changes around us, the more we learn that life is about learning. The Way is an ease-in process, not a fixed goal. … [People] have to replace dominion with dance—in schools, in agriculture, in family and foreign relations. Bamboo, ancient and adroit changer, has been riding climates roughly 200 million years now, about four hundred times the life of our species.

Perhaps it can help us really wake to our limited mornings, to flourish as durably. Bamboo’s diverse use is what most makes it a maximal learning zone, a point where many interests overlap. Admiration for its virtues unites scientist and musicians, farmers and architects, craftspeople and artists, rich and poor, country and city, East and West. Ancient builder of many bridges, bamboo can also serve as a thin union between peoples… where we need, at this dangerous and fragmented moment of an (emerging) century, all the bridges we can find or build.
Ecology and the Environment in East Asia
by Elaine Gerbert

The Center’s 2006–07 focus on the botanical bounty of East Asia was presaged in Spring 2006 with a look at some of the less salutary aspects of the ecology and environment of modern East Asia. With the help of Title VI funding, EALC 590, “Nature, Culture, and Environment in East Asia,” taught by Elaine Gerbert, was integrated with the Center’s spring Wine and Cheese Lecture Series, “Ecology and the Environment in East Asia,” and numerous guest speakers enriched the course as they shared their expertise with the KU community. Wallace Johnson (EALC) lectured on the concept of nature in Daoism. Bill Tsutsui (History) lectured on “The Ocean Empire: Reconsidering Japanese Expansionism, 1895–1945.” Brett Walker, a modern Japan historian from Montana State University, introduced the topic of the relationship between insects and human societies in “Insect Technologies, Eco-System Accidents, and Environmental Toxicity in Japan.” Miranda Schreurs, a political scientist from the University of Maryland, compared Japanese and Chinese government responses to environmental crises. Jennifer Turner, Coordinator of the China Environment Forum at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, brought the class up to date on Chinese environmental issues, focusing on water; and James Harris, Director of the International Crane Foundation based in Wisconsin, reported on responses to environmental crises in China’s wetlands.

The class benefited further from presentations on Chinese geography and Chinese gardens by Hou Shen (Environmental History); a gallery talk on representations of nature in traditional Chinese art and clothing by Mary Dusenbury (Spencer Art Museum); an overview of the environment in China’s village communities in the West by John Kennedy (Political Science); presentations on the environment in Tibet and Xinjiang by Deborah Peterson, Jermy Jamsu, Champa Lhunpo, and Mahire Yakup; a lecture on economic development and the coastal regions of Korea by So-Min Cheong (Geography); an analysis of the Korean film, Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter, and Spring Again, and a talk on the role of animal motifs in Korean Buddhist art by Maija Devine (EALC); a discussion of water management and food production in China led by Sheree Willis (CEAS); a lecture on rural life and agriculture in Japan by Eric Rath (History); and a photographic account of environmental excesses in China today by Pok-Chi Lau (Art and Design). Student class presentations spanned an array of topics, ranging from philosophical concepts of nature in China to the chemical hazards of the nanotechnology industry in Japan.

EALC MA–MBA Degree Program Launched

A new joint degree program that combines a business education with graduate study of an East Asian geographic area and language was launched in August 2006, with two students enrolled. Although both Geoffrey Cook (KU, BA, EALC, Honors, 2006) and Brian Mellor (KU, BA, English, 2002) initially studied Japanese, Chinese language appears to be a must for anyone seeking an entrepreneurial future in the East Asian region. Consequently, as beginning graduate students, Mellor is taking Elementary Chinese, and Cook is continuing with Intermediate Chinese in the first year of the program as they load up on business courses: finance, microeconomics, statistics, and organizational behavior for Mellor; financial management, introduction to marketing, statistics, professional development, and introduction to accounting for Cook. In the spring, Mellor will take “Business in China” taught by Taian Chi and travel to China with Business School professor Jane Zhao, before taking intensive Chinese in the summer and then studying both Advanced Chinese and Advanced Japanese in the fall. Cook, who has studied at Sophia University on a Bridging Scholarship and at Kyoto University on a Monbusho scholarship, plans to continue to work on his competency in academic-level Japanese through directed readings while he takes advanced courses in Chinese at KU. Both will write an EALC Master’s thesis in the third year of the program.

CEAS has also helped to initiate an EALC MA–JD program, which should be ready to receive students by Fall 2007.
During the 20th century, China was a place of great upheaval and change. In reaction, many artists worked to preserve their heritage by returning to traditional painting methods that focused on landscapes and expressive brushwork. Yet although these guohua (“National style painting”) painters chose to work with historically rooted formats, structures, and techniques, modern perspectives were added to their artwork.

The changing political landscape also influenced the living conditions of the artists themselves. In the past, artists were an elite group, and their art was made for and was seen by other artists and intellectuals. The Cultural Revolution changed that. Bai Xueshi spent several years in forced hard labor with other ordinary “workers,” and this contact engaged him in ways his classical predecessors had not been. He has said, “Before the liberation [1949], we spent most of our time imitating the old masters... However, after the liberation we felt that we had to go to the people to experience their ways of life.”

In traditional guohua, figures and images were a means to set off the brushwork, which was viewed as the embodiment of the personality and expression of the individual artist. Lu Yanshao’s 1979 painting, Precipitous Mountains in Wind and Mist, connected to this approach with dramatic lines and contrast. However, Lu Yanshao’s added energy lends the landscape scene less pretext than that of its guohua predecessors.

Likewise, Song Wenzhi’s painting, Setting Out at Dawn on the Jialing River, changes the traditional approach to guohua by taking the viewer into the air: the perspective is from up high, unlike the traditional recession of foreground, focal point, and background. Clearly, modernity—specifically, flight— influenced the artist.

Changing perceptions of China’s ethnic minority populations are also explored in the exhibit. In Three Tibetan Figures (1944), artist Ding Cong depicts what must have been exotic characters to him as he traveled outside his home in the urban center of eastern China. As time passes, minority figures are depicted intermingling more with the majority Han people. In Pang Ka’s The Imposing Xin’an River Hydro-Electric Station (1964), women and ethnic minorities are among those celebrating the great dam. Idealized harmony is also depicted in Guang Tingbo’s I Herd Horses for the Fatherland (1975), which shows a female People’s Liberation Army soldier assisting Mongols in their fields.

All paintings in this exhibit are in the Spencer Museum of Art’s permanent collection.

Chairman Mao’s Golden Mangoes
Spencer Museum of Art, Asia Gallery, Screen Case, opened September 19, 2006
by Leslie vonHolten

By sending mangoes to the Worker’s Propaganda Team during their August 1968 standoff with the students of the Red Guard occupying Qinghua University, Chairman Mao Zedong aligned himself with the Beijing laborers, establishing the worker-peasant class as the leaders of the Cultural Revolution. Inadvertently, the bold gesture also sparked a cult-like reaction to the exotic mango. Originally a gift to Mao from the foreign minister of Pakistan, the mangoes became the subject of numerous newspaper articles and poetry, and workers lined up to see the fruit. Once the mangoes began to decay, they were boiled and shared among the workers. Wax replicas were made to replace the fresh mangoes, and mangoes were depicted on fabric and kitchenware praising the kindness of Mao.

At the Spencer, richly colored fabric with yellow mangoes drape behind books, bowls, and medals depicting the fruit. Wax mangoes in glass cases silk-screened with Mao’s image also profess the leader’s benevolence. It’s a small exhibit highlighting an unusual, brief period of Chinese history.
CEAS Okubo Award Winner

Named after Genji Okubo, a long-time supporter of Japanese studies at KU, the Okubo Award is issued annually for the best student paper on a topic related to Japan. Papers are nominated each year by instructors. This year, the award was presented to Ai-lian Liu, graduate student of art history for “Yuima and Monju of Kofukuji: The Iconographical Evolution and Innovation of the Meeting of Virmalakirti and Manjushri Theme.”

20th Annual Japanese Language Speech Contest, sponsored by the Consulate General of Japan at Chicago
Undergraduate Eric Eickhorst was one of the finalists, and he received a Chicago Shimpo Award

8th Annual Japanese Kanji Bee
Undergraduate Dustin Spillers, 1st Place

East Asian Languages and Cultures Awards and Scholarships

Mary and Joseph Kuo Scholarship: The Kuo Scholarship for outstanding work in the Chinese language is given annually in memory of Mary Kuo, a former member of the Lifespan Institute. This year’s recipient was Brenton Sullivan.

Andrew and Lilly Tsubaki Award: Awarded to an undergraduate or graduate theatre student who plans to participate in a study abroad program devoted to theatre and/or language and culture of a foreign country. The 2006 recipient was Andrew Stark.

Grace Wan Chinese Language Award: This award for outstanding work in the Chinese language is given annually in memory of Grace Wan, a former KU professor of Chinese. The award this year went to James Haver.

The Higuchi Japanese Language Award: Given to the best Japanese language student each year in memory of the late Prof. Takeku Higuchi, Regents’ Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. The 2006 recipients were Ethan Skinner and David Biller.

The Niswander Dictionary Awards: The Niswander awards were established by Rex Niswander and his wife, Sonoko Niswander, in honor of his father, John Niswander. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in three Asian languages. The winners this year were Kyle Shernuk and Michael Sothan, for Chinese; Erik Christensen, for Japanese; and Elise Page, for Korean.

Nelson Scholarship in EALC: Awarded on the basis of academic excellence in EALC to a second semester junior. The award this year went to Michael Banh.

JET Program

In 2006, six students were accepted into the JET Program. Eric Eickhorst, MA, EALC (Japanese), 2006, is teaching in Urawa City, Saitama Prefecture. Kyle Timmermeyer, a third-year Japanese language student who graduated in English with honors in May 2006, is teaching in Nagasaki Prefecture. Alex Byers, BA, Political Science, 2006, is in Hokkaido. Others admitted to JET are Simon Skinner (BA, Linguistics, 2006); Billy Bernardo (BA, EALC [Japanese] 2006); and David Ferron (EALC alumnus [Japanese]).

Jill Kleinberg Scholarship

Supported by Professor Emerita Jill Kleinberg, the Kleinberg Scholarship is awarded to undergraduates pursuing a double degree in East Asian Studies and Business. The 2006 recipients were Nathan Ladd and Libby Allen.

Graduate Student Awards

Zhu Jin received a Graduate Teaching Assistant award.

Hillary Pedersen received a Monbushō Scholarship for Graduate Research in Japan.
At the annual Amsden Awards ceremony in Art History, Sangnam Lee was presented the Lawrence Sickman Award for achievement in the study of Chinese art; Halle O’Neal received the Scholarship for Academic Excellence in Asian Art History; and Ai-Lian Liu was presented with the Stokstad Award.

**Scholarships Abroad**

*Freeman Scholarships*

- **Matthew Poe** (Spring 2006, Sophia University, Japan)
- **Shan Lu** (Summer 2006, Korea University, Korea)
- **Michael Sothan** (Summer and AY 2006–2007, CET-Beijing and Chinese University)
- **Peter Bollig** (Fall 2006, Hong Kong University)
- **Julian Portillo** (Fall 2006, Hong Kong University)
- **Mariah Richardson** (Fall 2006, Hong Kong University)
- **Rick Winfrey** (Summer and AY 2006–2007, Hokkaidō International Foundation and Nanzan University, Japan)
- **R.D. Andrew Stark** (AY 2006–2007, Obirin University, Japan)

*NSEP Boren Scholarship*

- **Rick Winfrey** (AY 2006–2007, Nanzan University, Japan)

*Bridging Scholarship*

- **Rick Winfrey** (AY 2006–2007, Nanzan University, Japan)

*Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Scholarship*

- **Aaron Sickler** (AY 2006–2007, Fukuoka University, Japan)
- **R.D. Andrew Stark** (AY 2006–2007, Obirin University, Japan)

**Our 2006–2007 FLAS Recipients**

CEAS continues to provide federally funded academic scholarships to graduate students from across campus who are studying East Asian languages. This year, we awarded three academic year Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships, and six Summer 2006 FLAS fellowships.

- **Michelle Bridges** is an MA student in Linguistics. She used her summer FLAS to study second-year Uyghur at a summer workshop in Slavic, East European, and Central Asian Languages at Indiana University. She intends to use her Uyghur skills to complete research for her Master’s thesis on Uyghur. Bridges is from Shawnee, Kansas.

- **Geoffrey Cook** is an MA student in the joint MBA/MA program with concentrations in International Business and East Asian Cultures. This year, he is studying second-year Chinese at KU. In addition to an academic year FLAS award, Cook received a summer FLAS to study first-year Chinese at KU. He plans to further his studies of business relations between America and East Asia. Cook is from Overland Park, Kansas.

- **Kuoray Mao** is an MA student in Sociology. He used his summer FLAS to study second-year Uyghur at Xinjiang Normal University in China. He intends to use his language skills to conduct dissertation research in Xinjiang. Mao is from California.

- **Christopher Mayo** is an MA student in East Asian Languages and Cultures. He used his summer FLAS award to attend the University of Southern California Summer Kambun Workshop. He plans to use his language skills to further his studies of premodern Japanese law. Mayo is from Kansas.

- **Alison Miller** is an MA student in Art History. She used her summer FLAS to attend the Yamasa Institute in Okazaki for eight weeks of intensive language study in Japanese. She intends to use her language skills to further her studies of Japanese art history; she is interested in prints and Buddhist art. Miller is from Arlington Heights, Illinois.

- **Halle O’Neal** is a PhD candidate in Asian Art History. She is using her academic year FLAS award to study second-year Chinese at KU. Chinese studies will help her with her study of Japanese Buddhist art history. O’Neal is from Georgia.

- **John Schneiderwind** is a PhD candidate in modern Japanese history. He is currently using his academic year award to participate in Stanford University’s Inter-University Center program in Japan. He plans to further his studies of Japanese with the intention of completing his doctoral research in Japan in the future. Schneiderwind is from Nebraska.

- **Peter Tosco** is an MA student in East Asian Languages and Cultures and Russian, Eastern European, and Eurasian Studies. He used his summer FLAS to further his studies of Japanese through the Hokkaidō International Foundation Japanese Language and Japanese Culture Program. He plans to use his Japanese language skills to study relations between Japan and Russia. Tosco is from Key West, Florida.
Transitions

This section profiles three East Asian Studies majors at different stages of their careers.

As an undergraduate at the University of Washington, Hillary Pedersen majored in art history and Japanese language and literature, and she spent one year in Japan at Aoyama Gakuin University. After graduating, she lived in Japan for two years as coordinator for International Relations with the JET Program.

Brian Devine is a handsome young man, his features a pleasing blend of his mother’s Korean lineage and his father’s tall Midwestern blood. Brian is a KU graduate of East Asian Language and Culture, 2005, whose studies at KU helped him find his way back to his Korean roots.

Brian grew up in a home where his mother and grandmother spoke Korean to each other but not to him or his siblings. “I knew a couple of words in real Korean and quite a few in what we called “Konglish,” said Brian. His interest in Korean didn’t really surface until he was 12. That was the year his father took some of the family to Korea for a year. While there, Brian studied at an international school and took a Korean language class. Four years later, the family spent a year in Nanjing where he studied a bit of Chinese. Brian’s father is Michael Devine, director of the Truman Presidential Library and his mother is Maija Devine, a writer whose stories about her experience as a child growing up in Korea during the Korean War have been published in many well known literary journals.

When Brenton Sullivan of Stillwell, Kansas, majored in Political Science and Spanish at Notre Dame University, little did he know that his minor in Chinese would one day lead him to monastic study in China. He entered KU in 2003, after studying Chinese over the summer in Yunnan province, drawn by the opportunity to study Chinese Buddhism with Dan Stevenson.

In 2003–04, he read classical Chinese with John Dardess, and the Virmalakirti sutra in Chinese with Stevenson while teaching as a GTA in the Eastern Civilizations program. Two FLAS awards enabled him to spend Summer 2004 at the CET Academic Program in Beijing, and 2004–05 at the Inter-University program at Tsinghua University. He remained in Beijing in 2005–06, taking graduate and undergraduate courses in philosophy and religious studies at Beijing University and writing papers in Chinese. He also started an English teaching consulting business and taught English to children of migrant workers as a volunteer. A highlight of his time in China was a chance to do archival research at the former Sino-Tibetan Buddhist Institute, a Chinese Buddhist seminary in Chongqing, and to interview rural monks who had graduated from the seminary in the 1930s and 1940s. This year he is studying Tibetan and writing an MA thesis on that seminary’s director of education. He plans to study Tibetan at Columbia and Virginia’s intensive summer program in Lhasa before entering a doctoral program in Sino-Tibetan relations. Brenton has spent a lot of time at the Wenshu (Manjusri) Monastery in Chengdu, and he would like students to know that the Abbott, the Venerable Zongxing, welcomes American students and offers free board, room, and lessons to those who wish to visit and study there. The monastery web site is http://www.konglin.org/.

As a student at KU, Brian took three years of Korean language and spent a summer at the Yonsei institute. After graduation, he went to teach English at a hakwan in Seoul: A hakwan is an after school school. His students ranged in age from 3rd graders to adults. And it was there that Brian found his true calling: teaching. His plans call for him to return to Korea for another year of teaching and then enter an MA program and, perhaps in the future, earn a PhD that will allow him to continue teaching.

Though his language classes helped him in his year in Korea, the most useful class he took at KU was not a language class at all. “The class that helped me most in terms of understanding Korean culture was Living Religions of the East taught by Bob Minor,” said Brian. “It really gave me insight into Korea and Korean culture.”

by Randi Hacker

by Randi Hacker
Pedersen was drawn to study at the University of Kansas because of the outstanding support she received from her mentor, Professor Sherry Fowler, and because of the arts community in Lawrence, which she characterized as “a great academic town, good for graduate students.” At KU her major area of study was Japanese Esoteric Buddhist sculpture, with minor areas in early Chinese Buddhist sculpture and Momoyama and Edo period painting and ceramics.

Pedersen received financial support throughout her stay at KU, first as a graduate research assistant in the art history slide library, then as a graduate student teaching assistant for the course “Visual Arts of East Asia,” and the primary instructor for two Asian art survey courses. In 2004–05 she was a curatorial intern in the Spencer Museum; she was responsible for handling exhibitions, acquisitions, cataloguing, docent training, and public speaking. In the summer of her third year and in her fourth year of graduate studies she held FLAS awards for the study of Chinese.

In addition to courses in advanced modern Japanese and classical Japanese, she studied two years of modern Chinese and worked on Buddhist sutras and ritual texts in kanbun with Professor Dan Stevenson in the Department of Religious Studies.

In 2004, her seminar paper, “The Development of Bato Kannon Images in the Heian Period” won the Okubo Prize for the best student paper on a topic related to Japan. She also won the Marilyn Stokstad award for academic achievement.

Pedersen has a Monbusho fellowship to pursue doctoral dissertation study at the University of Kyoto, where she will conduct research on the Godai Kokuzo Bosatsu (five great bodhisattvas of infinite wisdom) under the guidance of professor of Japanese art history Nedachi Kensuke.

Kansas Report on Chinese Language and Summit on Strategic Languages

In response to increasing demand from students, parents, and business people, as well as federal programs like the National Security Language Initiative, K–16 educators throughout Kansas are realizing that strategic languages must be a part of education for the 21st century. In order to facilitate communication among stakeholders, further the development of a policy agenda, and identify statewide leadership for the effort to expand world language training, the Kansas Committee for International Education in the Schools (KCIES), led by Bill Tsutsui, organized the Kansas Summit on Strategic Languages.

Nearly 100 policymakers, legislators, educators, and members of the business community gathered on December 19th in Topeka to develop a statewide action plan for increasing the capacity of Kansas schools, colleges, and universities to teach critical world languages like Chinese, Arabic, and Russian. Support for the Summit was provided by CEAS as well as by other KU area study centers, by the Kansas State University Office of International Programs, Kansas World Trade Center in Wichita, and the World Trade Center of the Greater Kansas City Chamber of Commerce.

The impetus for the Summit was the publication of the “Report of the Kansas Task Force on Chinese Language Training” in October 2006 by KCIES. The 13-member Task Force had met the previous spring to survey the current state of Chinese language training in Kansas, evaluate future needs, and offer specific recommendations for short- and long-term initiatives to increase Chinese language capacity throughout the Kansas educational system. Several action steps were proposed in order to meet the two ambitious but attainable goals that the Task Force proposed, namely:

• By 2010, all K–12 students in Kansas should have the opportunity for exposure to Mandarin, whether in a traditional classroom setting, through interactive distance learning or other platform, in after-school and summer programs, or as part of an introductory world language session.

• By 2016, Mandarin should be one of the three most-taught languages in Kansas schools, measured both by the number of students enrolled and by the number of schools offering the language.

The full report and executive summary are online at www.kansasintheworld.org. To order hard copies, please contact Randi Hacker (rhacker@ku.edu) at the Center.
We have brought readers up to date on some of our alumni. Names of alumni mentioned in last year’s Annual Report do not appear here, unless additional news has been received about their activities.

Margaret Baptist, BA, EALC (Chinese); PhD, Harvard, is assistant professor of Chinese in the Languages and Literatures Department at the University of Utah. Her research areas are Chinese vernacular fiction of the Ming and Qing, popular culture of modern China, martial arts novels, and storytelling and ballads.

Paul Clark, MA, EALC (Japanese History) 1994; PhD, University of Pittsburgh, is a faculty member in the History and Political Science Department at West Texas A&M University. He spent the fall semester in Japan on a sabbatical leave supported by a Fulbright Fellowship doing research for his book, The Kokugo Revolution: Creating Language, Ideology and National Identity in Pre-War Japan. He returned to the States in late November, just in time for the birth of his son, Phillip.

Mark Cooledge, MA, EALC (Chinese), 1998, works in Phoenix, Arizona. He and his wife, Deb, have a daughter, Abigail, who was born in January 2003. Since Fall 2000, Mark has been an International Assignment Manager for Prudential Relocation International (a division of Prudential Real Estate & Relocation Services) and handles moves to Asia and elsewhere all over the world. He is also taking a Global Leadership Practices (OSC), Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice, in Washington, DC. Prior to joining OSC, Margaret served as a trial attorney for the Educational Opportunities Section in the Civil Rights Division.

Brent Johnson, MA, EALC (Chinese), 1999, is a consultant for Mitchell Mill Systems, Beijing. He is based in Beijing but also works with the Ricci Institute in Macao. Brent now has four children!

Jyarland Daniels Jones, BA/BS, EALC (Japanese) and Business, 1996. After working for Hallmark Cards and Johnson & Johnson, Jyarland earned an MBA from the University of Michigan in 2003. Since then she’s worked for the Ford Motor Company. She did marketing work in product development at Lincoln Mercury and later moved to the Dearborn-based Asia Pacific division. In 2005 she was made Marketing Manager for the launch of one of Ford’s best-selling cars, Fusion.

Steve Kinsella, BA, EALC (Chinese), 2001. As of October 2005, Steve worked for the Social Security Administration. He was certified as a Chinese translator for SSA in fall 2006. He was working toward an MBA at KU Edwards campus. (Kinsella@ssa.gov)

Steve Kulich, MA, EALC, Honors (Chinese), 1992, is a faculty member in the Foreign Languages department of Shanghai Foreign Languages University. (Kulis@uninet.com.cn)

Mei-Chen Lin, PhD, Communication Studies, 2004, researched intergenerational communication in Taiwan. She is now an Assistant Professor at Kent State University.

Kiyoko Metoki, PhD, Education (Japanese), 2003, is now teaching Japanese and ESL and developing TESOL curriculum at Ferris University in Big Rapids, Michigan. She experiences great joy when students from rural Michigan with no prior knowledge of Japan discover their own language and culture anew through learning Japanese. She reports that her children (and animals) are doing well and that life is good in Michigan.
Adam McIver, MA, EALC (Chinese), 2003. As of November 2005, Adam was working at Google as a localization analyst for Korean language materials.

Charly Pine, MA, EALC (Chinese), 2004, has returned to Tianjin, China, where he has established a Chinese language school for foreigners. (charlyjodie@yahoo.com)

Munroe Richardson, BA, EALC (Chinese), 1993, is Director of the Kaufman Legacy Fund at the Kaufman Foundation in Kansas City. Munroe was a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University and studied at Harvard Law School after he left KU.

Tim Roesner, BA, Accounting and Business Administration (concentration in EALC [Japanese]), 1996, worked for three years in the Japanese Practice Unit of Deloitte & Touche Tomatsu in Los Angeles. While there, he became a Certified Public Accountant and gained relevant industry experience auditing Japanese companies and other financial industry clients. Roesner then worked at Deutsche Securities Limited in Tokyo. Currently, he is the manager for the Pacific Rim Debt Management Reporting group for Merrill Lynch Japan Securities Co., Ltd. Roesner helped build the support infrastructure in Asia for Merrill Lynch, including projects in Korea, India, and China. In August he married Kaori Igarashi; they are buying a home in Nakameguro (Tokyo).

Stephanie Schumm, BA, EALC (Japanese), 2001, worked for a Japanese tourism bureau in Chicago, then spent time in Hawaii. She is currently employed in the international division of the Four Seasons Hotel and will begin studying for a graduate degree in tourism at New York University.

Jason Steuber, MA, EALC (Chinese), 1996, is a Leverhulme Trust Visiting Fellow at the University of Glasgow from October 1, 2006, through July 31, 2007. He is the Assistant Curator of Chinese Art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City. During his fellowship period, Steuber will be engaged in provenance research in the field of Chinese art in Western museum collections. He will also teach a Master’s course titled “Chinese Art Collections and Exhibitions: Provenance, Politics, and Canon Development.”

Lam Tong, MA, History (Chinese), 1996, is now Assistant Professor of History at the University of Toronto.

Tim Van Compernolle, MA, EALC, Honors (Japanese), 1995, has just published a book, *The Uses of Memory: The Critique of Modernity in the Fiction of Higuchi Ichirō* (Harvard University Press, 2006). He is an Assistant Professor of Japanese Literature at William and Mary. After leaving KU, Tim earned a PhD in Japanese Literature at the University of Michigan and was a postdoctoral fellow in the East Asian Studies Program at Oberlin College.

J. Keith Vincent, BA, Phi Beta Kappa magna cum laude, 1990, (MA, 1994; MPhil, 1995; PhD, 2000, Columbia University) held Monbushō, Fulbright, and Mellon Fellowships after graduating from KU in Japanese and Comparative Literature. He is now an Assistant Professor of Comparative Literature, East Asian Studies, at New York University. His research interests are in the fields of modern Japanese literature and popular culture; queer theory; psychoanalytic theory; globalization and sexuality; and history of translation and language reform. He has published extensively in Japanese. (keith.vincent@nyu.edu)

Wang Dong, PhD, History (Chinese), 1998, is now an Associate Professor of History at Gordon College in Massachusetts.

KU East Asian Studies Alumni pursuing additional degrees:

**Ernest Caldwell** studied in Taiwan from 2003 to 2005. He completed his MA in EALC (Chinese) in Fall 2006 and began studying in a PhD program at the University of Chicago in September 2006.

**Brian Cleveland** , MA, EALC, Honors (Japanese Literature), 2003, is a second-year graduate student in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultures at the University of Illinois, where he is studying Japanese Buddhism.

**Christopher “Chip” Dewell** , MA, EALC (Chinese), 2003, won a Fulbright Fellowship to conduct doctoral research for his dissertation in Chinese/Japanese history at the University of California at Santa Barbara.

**Bobby Delgreco**, BA, EALC Honors (Japanese), 2006, is a first-year graduate student in the KU EALC department. He is a GTA teaching Elementary and Intermediate Japanese.

**Will Hedberg**, BA, EALC (Chinese), 2005, enrolled in a Harvard PhD program in Chinese in September 2005. (whedberg@fas.harvard.edu)

**Larry Israel**, MA, EALC (Chinese History), is ABD in the History department at the University of Illinois. He is writing a dissertation titled “The Campaign of Wang Yang Ming in Southern China, 1516–1528.”

**Ken Komiya**, BA, EALC (Japanese), 2006, is a first-year graduate student in the KU School of Education.

**Yoonjae Lee**, BA, EALC, Honors (Japanese), 2006, is a first-year graduate student in the KU Law School.

**Sara Selena Nelson**, BA, EALC (Chinese), 2002, spent 2 years as an English teacher in a primary school in Hong Kong after graduating from KU. She traveled extensively in Asia (Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Thailand, China, and Tibet) and is now finishing her third year of law school at Washington University in St. Louis. This winter she will be in Washington, DC, as an intern for the Federal Trade Commission’s international division.

**Ryan Monroe**, BA, EALC (Chinese), 2000, entered Johns Hopkins Medical School in April 2004 and took his medical exams in Fall 2006. He spent summer 2005 in Guangzhou as a medical intern.

**Michael Ward**, MA, EALC (Japanese Literature), 2005, is a first-year graduate student in the department of Religious Studies at the University of Georgia, where he is also taking courses in Comparative Literature and translating modern Japanese literature. Michael studied Chinese at the University of Hawaii in Summer 2005, then spent 2005–06 teaching English in Qingdao, China, after completing his Master’s thesis on Murakami Haruki in September 2005.

Please visit our alumni webpage at www.ceas.ku.edu/alumni and add or update your entry.
The introduction of a radio show, two new K through 12-directed presentations, the creation of a community calligraphy class, inroads into virgin geographical territory, and the continued popularity of established programs made Year ‘05–’06 a stellar one for the Center’s Outreach program.

In September 2005, the Center teamed up with the Freeman Foundation (New York and Stowe, Vermont) and Kansas Public Radio to produce Postcards from Asia. The show gives listeners a 60-second glimpse of some of the quirkier aspects of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean culture, both contemporary and traditional. Broadcast twice a week—Wednesdays at 9:58 PM and Saturdays at 1:04 PM on KCUR 91.5—Postcards is hosted by Dr. Bill Tsutsui, professor of history at KU. Recently, the program was picked by the Outreach Coordinator at the Center for Japanese Studies at the University of Michigan for dissemination among their K–12 teachers, and there has been some talk of taking the show national. A lesson plan for K–12 classrooms has been created to help teachers use our Postcards from Asia to inspire their students to create their own “Postcards from ___” as a means of studying and presenting information about cultures from around the world.

The two new K–12 presentations were Introduction to the Chinese Language and Mulan and the Four Treasures of Ancient China. Both have been done several times now and were well-received at all grade levels.

Introduction to the Chinese Language gives an overview of the language from tones to characters to stroke order, and it teaches some vocabulary, how to count to 100, and a few key phrases in about 45 minutes. Its goal is to awaken interest in the language among young students who might then be motivated to study Chinese at the high school and/or college level. The presentation includes a lecture component, speaking practice, and a stroke-counting activity that raises student awareness of the complicated nature of the Chinese writing system. It is remarkable how well the youngest learners mimic the tones, producing Chinese sounds that are almost pitch-perfect. Introduction to the Chinese Language was also successfully presented to a group of adults from the U.S. Department of Health in conjunction with Asian/Pacific Heritage Month. Their tones were not as good, but their enthusiasm level was equal, their attention span longer, and their jokes funnier! Introduction to the Chinese Language is the first in what was conceived as a series of introductory lessons in the languages of East Asia. Introductory modules in Japanese and Korean are in the works.

Mulan and the Four Treasures of Ancient China was designed to fit neatly into the Kansas History Standards unit on Ancient Civilizations, which includes Ancient China. The first presentation was done at Hillcrest School where 60 sixth graders in two groups of 30 learned several words from the classical poem, “The Song of Mulan.” KU PhD candidate Hou Shen recited the poem in Chinese,
with the English recitation done by Randi Hacker, CEAS Outreach Coordinator. The students then learned to write one of the characters, 𓀑 (warrior), using brush and ink. The presentation is being offered to all sixth grade classes in Lawrence; scheduling is now underway.

Sanae Eda, KU assistant professor of Japanese and indefatigable outreach volunteer, approached the Center last spring to see if we would partner with her to sponsor a brush calligraphy workshop that she wanted to offer to Lawrence home schoolers. The Center did indeed sponsor the workshop, which met four times and received a lovely write-up in the Lawrence Journal World. Dr. Eda then agreed to take the workshop to the community, and she has now taught three sections of four weeks each—the first in September, the last to end the first week of December—to students of all ages and from all walks of life.

Outreach reached out further west in Kansas than it has before when the Center did a presentation at Council Grove Elementary School. For many of the students, it was the first time they had seen someone from China, and the first time they had ever heard the Chinese language spoken. Hou Shen, our steadiest Chinese cultural representative, and Randi Hacker presented one of our established programs—the bilingual story time, in this case, Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel, in Chinese and English—for fourth and fifth graders. In addition, a presentation on the Center’s resources was given to a group of social studies teachers at the Smoky Hill Service Center in Salina, Kansas. The teachers were very interested in all of the opportunities available to them through our outreach program.

Last but not least, the Center worked with teachers at Southwest Junior High (Lawrence), Sunset Hill Elementary School (Lawrence), and Garfield Elementary School (Ottawa) to create large-scale Asian events. Southwest sponsored a Morning of Asia for the entire seventh grade to kick off their East Asia unit. The event included a lecture on Godzilla by Dr. Tsutsui and workshops on martial arts; chopsticks; calligraphy; origami; and the Chinese, Japanese, and Korean languages. All workshops were led by outreach volunteers from KU and the Lawrence community. Sunset Hill’s Asian event included lessons in Japanese calligraphy and the Japanese and Chinese languages. Garfield Elementary School’s Asian Evening, for both parents and students, included a workshop on using chopsticks and traveling to China, this last given by KAS-China scholars Jaimie Oborny and Trenton Wilson.

In addition, the Center’s established outreach programs—bilingual story time at schools and in libraries, culture trunks, K–12 teacher workshops, study tours to Asia and St. Louis, and the speakers’ bureau—all functioned like a well-oiled machine to help us fulfill as many of the state’s East Asian needs as possible.
On May 4, 2006, the Confucius Institute at the University of Kansas (CIKU) was launched at the KU Edwards Campus in Overland Park by Governor Kathleen Sebelius and Chinese Vice Minister of Education Wu Qidi. The new CIKU will serve Johnson County, Kansas, and the Kansas City metropolitan area by offering community classes in the Chinese language, supporting the teaching of Chinese at the K–12 level, and sponsoring public programs on Chinese business and culture.

“KU was one of the first universities in this nation to establish direct exchange programs in China,” according to University of Kansas Chancellor Robert Hemenway. “Having the Confucius Institute here reflects the strength of KU’s connection to China as well as our superb and extensive Chinese and East Asian programs. This will give this state and region a competitive advantage now as China is emerging as a leading economic force in the world.”

Dedicated to “enhancing the understanding of the Chinese language and culture,” 120 Confucius Institutes have been founded around the world by the Office of the Chinese Language Council International (Hanban). The Confucius Institute at the KU Edwards Campus was the fourth chartered in the United States, following ones at the University of Maryland, the Chicago Public Schools, and New York’s China Institute. CIKU is a partnership of the University of Kansas, Hanban, and Huazhong (Central China) Normal University in Wuhan.

CIKU reports to KU Chancellor Robert Hemenway, with an Advisory Board that advises the Chancellor in general matters of development, programming, curriculum and instruction, and strategic planning. The general management and operations of CIKU are the responsibility of Executive Director William Tsutsui, professor of history and director of the Kansas Consortium for Teaching about Asia. Associate directors Sheree Willis and Nancy Hope administer CIKU programs and educational outreach. Two visiting scholars from Huazhong Normal University, Zhiqun “James” Liang and Honggen “Jonathan” Yi, are affiliated with CIKU this year and are teaching language classes and developing new programs.
As Time Magazine put it, “If you want to get ahead, learn Mandarin” (June 19, 2006). CIKU is making this possible in northeast Kansas by offering non-credit community Chinese language courses at the Edwards Campus and in Lawrence. These practical and enjoyable classes emphasize the conversational skills most useful for travel and business in China. Classes are scheduled at times convenient for professionals (before work and on weekday evenings), and the course fees are modest. Over 100 participants enrolled in six classes in Fall 2006; an expanded range of classes at the introductory and intermediate levels will be offered in Spring 2007.

CIKU is also reaching out to K–12 education, where the demand for Chinese language is high but the supply of qualified teachers and the availability of classes is low. CIKU is partnering with the Southeast Kansas Education Service Center (Greenbush) to offer Mandarin Chinese by interactive distance learning (IDL) to high school classrooms across the state. CIKU is providing an instructor (Jonathan Yi) who, from a state-of-the-art wired classroom at KU in Lawrence, is connected in real time in audio and video with sites in Topeka, Lawrence, Marysville, Maize, Winfield, Deerfield, and Holcombe. As the first IDL initiative in Chinese of this scale in the United States, the project is an important pilot program in the use of educational technology. What’s more, the 42 young people enrolled in the IDL class almost triples the number of K–12 students in Kansas learning Chinese this year.

Since its opening, staff have made numerous presentations on CIKU and its programs to local and national groups: chambers of commerce throughout the region, business organizations like the International Trade Club of Kansas City and Kansas International, the Midwestern Association of Universities International, the Asia in the Curriculum national conference, and several local boards of education in Kansas. Media coverage of CIKU has appeared in newspapers across the state, on WBEZ public radio in Chicago, and in periodicals such as The Language Educator. CIKU, in cooperation with KU Athletics, even arranged a live Chinese-language broadcast of the November 28th KU men’s basketball game against Dartmouth. Streamed around the world on the internet, the historic broadcast (with James Liang on play-by-play and Sheree Willis on color commentary) was the first in Chinese for any KU or Big 12 Conference sporting event.

Having a Confucius Institute at the KU Edwards Campus provides a tremendous opportunity to build new bridges of cultural understanding between China and Kansas. Through public programs in Chinese language, culture, and business practices, CIKU will help Kansans master the challenges and opportunities of our increasingly integrated world.

For more information, please visit the Confucius Institute’s web site at www.confucius.ku.edu or email ciku@ku.edu.
From raking wheat with villagers to talking exports with factory managers to trading stories on campus life with Chinese university students, the Kansas/Asia Scholars China group interacted with a wide variety of people in China this summer. Led by Sheree Willis and Jun Fu, the group traveled to Beijing, Xi’an, Wuhan, and Shanghai, with side trips to Tianjin and Wudangshan.

In keeping with the China program’s focus on the role of business, the group visited a range of companies, large and small, local and foreign-invested. In Tianjin, the students watched the manufacturing of exercise equipment for export to the United States and learned how one local entrepreneur built a thriving enterprise from scratch. Through visits to the China operations of American companies such as Black & Veatch and Coca-Cola, they learned about the challenges and opportunities for American business in China.

The group gained a perspective on government policies to encourage business investment through meetings with managers of economic development zones in Tianjin and Wuhan. The students balanced this view with a first-hand look at the consumer experience through tours of retail establishments in each city, where they compared retail prices for common, grocery store commodities in a range of outlets from outdoor markets to small grocery stores to big-box, urban chains such as Carrefour and Wal-Mart.

In contrast with the glitzy boutiques of Beijing and Shanghai, a trip to rural Shaanxi gave the scholars an opportunity to observe the very different pace of economic development in rural China. The group overnighted with farming families in a village outside of Xi’an, where the students helped spread wheat to dry on the village road, ate delicious steamed buns and traditional noodles, and, in some cases, even slept on the traditional northern kang (brick platform) beds. The group spent a delightful afternoon playing games and exchanging songs at the local, consolidated village school, which the students hope to assist in the future.

In Wuhan, the group met with fellow college students in a forum at Huazhong Normal University in Wuhan, where the Kansas/Asia Scholars and local university students gave presentations on college life in the United States and China. The forum inspired lively discussion and the students enjoyed exploring the campus and learning about Chinese youth culture from their new friends.

When the crowds and rapid pace of modern urban life seemed exhausting, the students welcomed opportunities to experience the often quieter echoes of the past at historic sites. All especially appreciated the calm of the Grand Mosque in Xi’an and Buddhist temples in Beijing and Wuhan. The group investigated one aspect of traditional culture more deeply through a lecture on Daoism and a three-day trip to Mt. Wudang, one of the five sacred Daoist peaks in China, where the group hiked and visited Daoist temples.

The KAS-China group students are currently completing service learning projects, based on their understanding of China, and are looking forward to more exploration of Chinese culture in the future!
This summer, 22 schoolteachers and school librarians from Kansas, Missouri, and Oklahoma participated in an educational study tour subsidized by the Freeman Foundation of New York and Stowe, Vermont. Led by Nancy Hope of the Kansas Consortium for Teaching about Asia (KCTA) and Dr. Jessica Stowell of the Oklahoma Institute for Teaching East Asia (OITEA), these educators explored five cities in China—Beijing, Xi’an, Chengdu, Chongqing, and Shanghai—and three in Korea—Gyeongju, Taegu, and Seoul—from June 18 to July 6.

Highlights of the China portion of the trip included Beijing’s Forbidden City, the Panda Preserve near Chengdu, and the Pudong area of Shanghai. Participants by far most appreciated their visit to the Xi’an area where they gazed upon the Terracotta Army and went to see the Yu Kou Village School located deep in the mountains of Lantian County. They presented gifts, including classroom supplies and English books, to the school’s headmaster, and they were impressed in turn by the math and language arts classes they observed. Since this was the third time KCTA affiliates had visited Lantian County, the Americans were even invited into the villagers’ homes.

In Korea, the participants experienced firsthand the contrast between the peaceful atmosphere at the Dosan Seowan Confucian Academy where upper class males have been educated for several hundred years, and the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) located just 30 miles from Seoul. Although North Korea had launched several rockets toward Japan just a few hours prior to their visit, tension at the DMZ appeared not to have been overly affected. Republic of Korea troops were seen playing volleyball and other team sports that day. Fortunately, no further action was taken by either side, and all travelers returned to the United States on schedule.

Each of the teachers and librarians was selected from among alumni of a KCTA (www.kcta.ku.edu) or OITEA (http://tulsagrad.ou.edu/okitea/) seminar on incorporating Chinese, Japanese, and Korean content into the K–12 curriculum. In return for the trip, they will enrich and expand East Asian content in their own school districts with the primary sources they brought back and with presentations and materials they created afterward.
Why give to the Center for East Asian Studies?

CEAS supports the development of new courses, faculty, and student research travel, student scholarships for study of East Asian languages, and the East Asian Library.

CEAS promotes knowledge of East Asia through academic conferences, lecture series and special lectures, film festivals, exhibits, recitals, and festival celebrations.

CEAS outreach programs serve K–12 and postsecondary schools throughout the Great Plains region.

The Center is funded by the university, foundations, and the Department of Education (Title VI National Resource Center grant), and we actively continue to pursue such support. However, contributions from individual donors are essential not only to underwrite activities not covered by other sources, but also to demonstrate to corporate sponsors and foundations the value our alumni and members attach to the Center and its mission.

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- Curriculum development
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Please send your donations, clearly marked “Center for East Asian Studies,” to Lisa Jackson, Development Officer, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, KU Endowment, P.O. Box 928, Lawrence, KS 66044-0928.

We have enclosed a card and envelope for your convenience.

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