Letter from the Director

Last year brought significant changes to the CEAS faculty. We were delighted to welcome five new members in the fall. You will meet them in the “New Faculty Spotlight,” pp. 10-11. Professor Akira Yamamoto retired last spring, after 35 years of research and teaching in Anthropology at KU; we review his many accomplishments on p. 8. Sadly, on October 23, we lost Wallace Johnson, a distinguished scholar and legendary teacher in East Asian Languages and Cultures. We remember him on p. 7, and invite you to share your reminiscences of him with us by email (ceas@ku.edu) for our next issue.

In our continuing quest to engage diverse audiences in diverse aspects of East Asian culture, CEAS programs last year mixed tradition and innovation. Once again our annual Lunar New Year Party drew a large crowd. Typically, 200-300 people join us to celebrate the new lunar year with East Asian foods and a lively program of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean performances. If you are within driving distance of Lawrence, watch the CEAS webpage in January for the party announcement and join us in welcoming the next lunar year. We would like to open the next party with a spirited dragon dance using a newly acquired CEAS dragon. If you were thinking of making a donation to CEAS this year, please consider earmarking a portion of it for our dragon-acquisition fund. (We will also use the dragon for outreach events at local schools.)

Last fall, we added a Mid-Autumn Festival Moon-Viewing Party to our annual round of events. Around 7 pm on a warm evening in September, about forty people gathered by the pond in front of the Dole Institute on West Campus to sample authentic moon cakes from Beijing and New York, along with Kansas moon cakes, a.k.a. doughnut holes. As it grew dark, the music of a Chinese string ensemble and poems chanted in Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and English lured a reluctant moon from behind the clouds to cast its reflection on the water. (See the photo essay inside.)

While maintaining one annual tradition and instituting another, CEAS embarked on a new adventure: annual thematic programs. To maximize the impact of our activities, we have begun organizing lectures, performances, films, and new course offerings around timely themes of broad interest.

Last year, under the banner “Green Tea and Bamboo: The Botanical Riches of East Asia,” we tapped our members’ considerable expertise on East Asian plants. For our fortuitously named “Tea and Talk” series, Lester Mitscher, Distinguished Professor of Medical Chemistry, explored the question “Drink Tea and Live Longer?” Dale Slusser, Director of Corporate and Foundation Development at KUEA and an Instructor of Ursenke Chanoyu, spoke on “The Japanese Tradition of Tea.” Art Historian Patricia Graham introduced “The Japanese Sencha Tea Ceremony.” Thomas Huang, Design, talked about “Bamboo Applications: Furniture and Sculpture,” a theme he also developed as a new course. Robert Corser, Architecture, created a tea-related course. Working with Dale Slusser, Corser challenged his students to create a portable tea house that can be moved around campus for impromptu tea events inside or outdoors. The marvelous contemporary structure they created is currently set up in the Honors Program’s Nunemaker Hall, where Slusser will use it to introduce the art of tea to students in the program.

Visitors added to the tea-and-bamboo expertise on campus. Jeehyun Lee and Alicia Jenkins from the Sensory Analysis Center of the Department of Human Nutrition at Kansas State University came to Lawrence to provide “A Scientific Analysis of Green Tea Tasting.” Visiting musician (shakuhachi) and musicologist David Wheeler gave a lecture/demonstration titled “Bamboo Ubiquity: A Universal Material’s Role in Japanese History, from Music to the Mundane.”

To extend the life of this theme, we are constructing a web site dedicated to East Asian plants on the KU campus, complete with a finding map, photographs, horticultural information, and descriptions of the uses and cultural meanings of particular plants in their original East Asian settings. This web site is for teachers, visiting alumni, or anyone who might like to take an informed stroll, real or virtual, through the seasonal changes of the flowers and trees on our lovely campus that trace their roots to East Asia.

This year (2008) our theme is “Countdown to the Beijing Olympics.” We are presenting a film series focused on East Asian sports in general and the Olympics in particular; “Tea and Talk” presentations on the lasting cultural impact of the Olympics on Tokyo, Seoul, and Beijing; and an international symposium, “Olympian Desires: Building Bodies and Nations in East Asia,” April 10–12. The times and locations of all of these events, including a complete schedule of the symposium, are available on the CEAS website.

We look forward to seeing you at some of our “Countdown to Beijing” events, and hope that you will follow this program, as well as the development of our new “Green Tea and Bamboo” web page, on the CEAS web site, http://www.ceas.ku.edu/.

Everyone at CEAS joins me in wishing you a Happy and Prosperous Year of the Rat!

— Marsha Haufler, Acting Director
CEAS Mission Statement

CEAS trains specialists in East Asian languages and cultures and provides expertise on East Asia to the state, region, and nation. On campus, CEAS supports teaching, curriculum development, faculty and student research, the library, and media resources. CEAS outreach programs enrich the educational experience of our students, provide training and educational materials for K–12 teachers and educators at other post-secondary institutions, and make the university’s East Asian resources, including faculty expertise, available to the community, business, government, and the media.
In September, William Tsutsui, KU Professor of History and founding Executive Director of the KU Confucius Institute, received the 2007 George and Eleanor Woodyard International Educator Award. Tsutsui has been a KU faculty member since 1993.

The award, previously known as the Provost’s Award for Leadership in International Education, recognizes faculty who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in strengthening KU’s international dimension in such areas as curriculum development, study abroad programs, relationships with international partner institutions, and collaboration with international colleagues in significant research and publications.

Among Tsutsui’s accomplishments are his leadership in bringing the Chinese government–sponsored Confucius Institute to KU; securing a Freeman Foundation grant that seeded four faculty positions in East Asian studies and enabled 80 undergraduates to travel to East Asia; receiving a Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence in 2001; and organizing for CEAS the 2004 Godzilla conference, which brought international attention to KU. He recently sat down with Leslie vonHolten to discuss his background, the Confucius Institute, and why it is important for students to broaden their worldview.

LVH: Describe briefly the range of your international activities.

WT: Over the years, I’ve done just about everything, from being Acting Director for the Center for East Asian Studies to working on the Freeman undergraduate East Asian studies initiative, facilitating folks going over to China, Japan, and Korea on study abroad programs. Most recently, of course, starting the Confucius Institute and being the founding Executive Director there. And racking up a lot of miles going to Asia during that time as well.

LVH: When did you begin focusing your research on Japanese history?

WT: When I was an undergraduate, I started taking courses on East Asia, including a very well-known course called Industrial East Asia from sociologist Ezra Vogel. I loved it, and decided that working on economic issues in Asia was something I wanted to do. I majored in East Asian Studies, then went to England and did a master’s degree in Japanese history. Then I went to law school. I was a law student for six weeks before I decided I wanted to do Asian history for the rest of my life. I’ve never looked back.

LVH: How did the opportunity for the Confucius Institute come about?

WT: I need to thank Chancellor Hemenway, who, with Diana Carlin, the former Dean for International Programs, was in Beijing in 2005 talking to the Department of Ministry. The idea was raised that maybe KU would like a Confucius Institute. Being a good administrator, Chancellor Hemenway said, “Sure, we want one.” Then he came back and called the CEAS office and said, “What’s a Confucius Institute? Do we really want one?” I was the one lucky enough to pick up the phone, and we started studying and decided this was something that could be good for KU and for the community.

LVH: Are you defining your role in the Confucius Institute as you go along?

WT: One of the great things about the Institute is that we’re given tremendous flexibility to define the programs that make the most sense for our community. We have done a lot with K–12 education and businesses in the region, and also with the general public. Not a lot of Institutes follow the same script, but I think that’s what’s going to make the project a success in the long run. We can really be flexible in meeting local needs.

LVH: How has research in regard to East Asia changed in recent years?

WT: There are cycles of academic interest. Twenty-five years ago, business history was a very active area, so I was right on the cutting edge when I started my dissertation. By the time my book came out, people couldn’t have cared less about the Japanese economy, so it sold about 3 copies! (laughing) Now, because people have stopped studying business history, there’s this sort of retro-chic thing going on where all of these old fields we’ve ignored too long are coming back. So I feel that maybe now I can come into my own again.

LVH: How has undergraduate education changed during your career?

WT: I think about when I was an undergraduate, and how many people I knew who did study abroad: almost nobody. It was such a rare thing and such a weird thing. Now study abroad is such a part of student life, and I think it’s terrific. The experiences students get while abroad are truly life-changing. In some ways I’m very jealous of students today, but I’m glad I’ve been able to participate in the process where this just becomes a part of undergraduate life.

(continued on p. 5)
Assistant Professor J. Megan Greene (History) has been appointed as the first CEAS Associate Director. The Associate Director primarily works to identify and establish additional funding streams for the Center.

Prior to coming to KU in 2002, Megan was a postdoctoral research fellow in Taiwan Studies at the University of London and an assistant professor of history at Gettysburg College. She has published extensively on Taiwan’s history, identity, and politics. Her book, *Taiwan’s Past, China’s Future: Industrial Science Policy and the Developmental State* is forthcoming from Harvard University Press (2008).

Megan can trace her interest in China and Taiwan to an early age. “It’s actually true, although it sounds slightly flip,” she said, laughing, “but when I was growing up, I really, really loved Chinese food.”

Her love for Chinese cuisine (which she and her father shared in Baltimore) led her to take a course titled Women in China when she was in high school. Her interest piqued, she went to college intending to major in either French literature or East Asian studies.

“I started taking Chinese my first year, and also East Asian survey courses,” she explained. “I really liked those classes, and I hated the French lit classes. So that was that.”

In addition to her CEAS duties and teaching, Megan is currently researching ways in which history is being narrated in contemporary Taiwan, especially in regard to the identity politics of factions advocating either unification with or independence from China.

“As various political actors are struggling to define Taiwan, they use history,” she said. “There have been debates over the last few years about curriculum, what the textbooks should look like, what narratives should be used. There are other kinds of issues relating to monumentation, celebrations, museum exhibits advocating for one narrative or another.”

Megan spends her spare time with her daughter and husband, walking their new puppy, reading fiction, and occasionally traveling and cooking. She can be reached at mgreene@ku.edu.

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**Tsutsui (con’t)**

**LVH: How should students prepare for our global world?**

WT: The experience of learning a foreign language as a way of stretching your mind and being able to think like someone else is really significant. Culture in many ways is carried through language. Just having that framework and seeing the world through French eyes and ears or Japanese eyes and ears really can make you more receptive to the diversity of the world.

Also, I do think that having expertise in area studies, whether it be political science, sociology, or history, is crucial in giving people the analytical tools they need to face the world today. People need to be able to make sense of the news themselves. We really can’t trust the media or our political or economic leaders to give us the full story. So we need to be able to look at the story on, for example, product quality coming out of China and say, how do I as an American understand this? And what can I do to make a difference?

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**Tsubaki Teaches Aikido in Japanese**

Last winter, retired KU professor Andrew T. Tsubaki (Theatre and Film, East Asian Languages and Cultures) taught a free, 5-week noncredit Aikidō course largely in Japanese. Eighteen KU students and community members attended the sessions.

Aikidō is a defense-oriented modern Japanese Budō (martial art) evolved from traditional Jujitsu, Aikijitsu, and swordsmanship. It can be literally translated as the way (dō) to union (ai) with life force (ki). Tsubaki is a founding member of the Kansas Ki Society and sensei of the Kankoukan Dōjō in Lawrence.

As a result of Tsubaki’s course, the older children’s class at the Kansas Ki Society has incorporated more Japanese words into class instruction.

This course was made possible by the Center for East Asian Studies’ Department of Education Title VI grant.
A Diplomat in the Classroom
Takao Shibata Discusses Two Years As the Chancellor’s Lecturer

In February 2007, Chancellor’s Lecturer Takao Shibata spoke at the Hall Center for the Humanities about “The Economic Integration of Asia: How Will It Affect American Influence in Asia?” He taught classes in International Business at the KU Edwards campus, as well as in Political Science, International Studies, and History at the KU Lawrence campus.

In March, he delivered the Law School’s annual Diplomat’s Forum Lecture, speaking on the role of the United States in the United Nations, and he participated in the Hall Center colloquium on Human Dimensions of Climate Change Science. He also addressed the Graduate School’s Self Fellowship recipients, the Lawrence Rotary International, the International Relations Council in Kansas City, two Peace and Conflict Studies classes, and spoke at the CEAS International Careers Workshop.

In April, Shibata participated in KU’s Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) conference, “Helping Failed States Recover: The Role of Business in Promoting Stability and Development.” Through his offices, KU hosted Om Pradhan, former ambassador of Bhutan to the United Nations, who lectured on Bhutan-China relations.

The graduate students in his spring seminar, EALC 790, gained an up-close view of the complex world of international finance and diplomacy in East Asia through Shibata’s first-hand accounts.

In Memoriam:
Wallace Stephen Johnson Jr. (1932–2007)

Professor Wallace Johnson died of a heart attack October 23, 2007. A member of the East Asian Languages and Cultures faculty since 1965, he is remembered as a dedicated scholar and outstanding teacher. Upon news of his death, colleagues noted that he often said he never planned to retire from teaching.

In course evaluations, students often extolled Johnson’s Myths, Legends, and Folk Beliefs in East Asia as their favorite course and Johnson as the best professor they worked with during their time at KU. His widow, Diantha (Dee) Johnson, said her husband would run into former students on the street and they would always remember him.

Johnson was born November 6, 1932, in Hampton, Virginia. He met his wife, Diantha (Haviland) Johnson, in the 1950s when they were graduate students at the University of Pennsylvania and Bryn Mawr College, respectively. They went their separate ways but reunited at KU when she was teaching in the Classics department; they married in 1970. Their son, Wallace Johnson III, lives in Washington, DC.

Before college, Johnson trained as an opera singer at the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore. After deciding that opera would not be a suitable career, he changed course and received a B.A. at Johns Hopkins University in 1957. There he took a class taught by the renowned Central Asian and Chinese scholar, Owen Lattimore, who sparked his interest in East Asian studies. Johnson always remembered Lattimore—who had been falsely accused of Soviet espionage by none other than Senator Joseph McCarthy—as a marvelous scholar and teacher. In 1968, Johnson received a Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania, where he was a student of Professor Derk Bodde.

Johnson’s two-volume annotated translation, *The Tang Code: General Principles* (1979) and *The Tang Code: Specific Articles* (1997) published by Princeton University Press, is recognized as the definitive translation of this major Chinese legal text. Johnson also compiled five concordances to classic texts, two of which were published under his Chinese name, Zhuang Weisi, in the Research Aids Series by the Chinese Materials Center in the 1970s. In 2001, he created and edited the online *Journal of Asian Legal History*, which is devoted to the history and development of law in China, Japan, Korea, Vietnam, and contiguous areas of central Asia from early times until the opening of the modern era. This journal also makes the Tang, Ming, and Qing Codes available in Chinese online.

His interest in technology led Johnson to devise a computer search method for Chinese electronic texts, resulting in a breakthrough in Chinese scholarly research. He created the *Xiaojing yinde* (Concordance of the Classic of Filial Piety) using this method, noting that the computer took one and one-half minutes to do what would have taken a month if done in the traditional way.

Over the course of his long career, Johnson was recognized with awards and grants from many sources, including the Association for Asian Studies, the International Institute for Asian Studies in Leiden, and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. For the last, he organized the international conference “Central Asian Law: An Historical Overview,” and with Irina Popova co-edited the papers published as *Central Asian Law: An Historical Overview: A Festschrift for the Ninetieth Birthday of Herbert Franke* in 2004. In addition, Johnson was granted a senior fellowship from the Chiang Ching-kuo Foundation in 1993 and received a publication grant from the same foundation in 1997.

Johnson was also a strong supporter of CEAS, Chair of the CEAS Faculty Library Committee, and a vigorous advocate for the East Asian Library collection, which he consulted almost daily. CEAS and the East Asian Library are working together to update Johnson’s *Advanced Readers in Chinese Art History, Chinese International Relations, Chinese History*, and *Chinese Literature* currently available on KU Scholarworks (https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu/dspace/handle/1808/1069/simple-search?query=johnson). The updated versions, which will use pinyin romanization, will be posted on this website. We also hope to collect the books in a single-volume, limited-print edition for dissemination to East Asian libraries. Also in his honor, CEAS would like to launch a regularly scheduled Wallace S. Johnson Memorial Lecture in Medieval Chinese Culture. This project will be dependent on donated funds, and we hope readers will consider making a donation to CEAS specifically to support this lecture series.
Akira Yamamoto Retires

At the end of the spring 2007 semester, Anthropology and Linguistics Professor Akira Yamamoto retired from KU, where he taught since 1973. For the past three decades, he has worked with the Hualapai Indian community and with various language projects in Arizona and Oklahoma.

Although his primary scholarly focus was on Native American languages, he devoted much of his career to East Asian studies.

Together with his wife, Japanese Language and Literature Professor Emerita Kimiko Yamamoto, he taught courses on folklore, popular culture, and lifestyles in Japan, and led seminars on Edo period culture and space in Japanese culture. He also taught Structure of Japanese and trained numerous graduate students in both Japanese Linguistics and in anthropological research on Japan. He participated in many conferences. In 1996 he was the keynote speaker at the Northern Pacific Rim Linguistics Conference at Kyoto University.

Yamamoto also chaired the Linguistic Society of America’s Committee on Endangered Languages and Their Preservation, and he co-chaired the UNESCO Ad Hoc Expert Group on Endangered Languages. He is a member of the Linguistic Society of Japan and the Japanese Society of Ethnology.

In 1978, Yamamoto helped found the American Indian Language Development Institute (AILDI), which hosts an annual summer school in language documentation and Native pedagogical materials preparation. AILDI’s primary mission has been to advocate indigenous language rights and to ensure linguistic and cultural diversity. The Institute was cited in a national study by the U.S. Department of Education as one of the 10 outstanding programs for minority teacher preparation in the country. From 1990 to the present, AILDI has trained approximately 2,000 participants.

Yamamoto has been recognized with many awards over the course of his distinguished career, including the KU Mortar Board Outstanding Educator Award (1989), the William T. Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence (1997), a Big XII Faculty Fellowship (2000), and a Higuchi Endowment Research Achievement Award: the Irvin Youngberg Award in Applied Sciences (2004).

Former CEAS Director Clyde Stoltenberg Returns to Kansas

Clyde Stoltenberg, who taught in the KU School of Business from 1980 to 2001 and co-directed the Center for East Asian Studies (1990-92), the Center for International Business (1997-1999), and the Center for International Business and Economic Research (1999-2001), returned to Kansas this fall to assume the W. Frank Barton Distinguished Chair in International Business and become Associate Director of the Center for International Business Advancement (CIBA) at Wichita State University. CIBA, through its administration of the World Trade Council, is closely connected to the Wichita business community. As a member of the CIBA Board, Professor Stoltenberg will be responsible for education programs with the business community. Last year, the curriculum of the International Business major at Wichita State was revised to require geographic focus with increased language and area studies as well as study abroad. Professor Stoltenberg will be involved in developing short-term study abroad experiences for students whose other commitments will not permit a semester or year abroad. Initially, the focus will be on summer programs in Germany and Greater China. This fall he introduced a new course on International Trade Law & Regulation, which had been approved as a permanent addition to the curriculum. He has also been invited to become a member of the Kansas International Trade Coordinating Council. Looking ahead, he hopes to develop joint research opportunities in Global Entrepreneurship to link up with the strong Entrepreneurship program at WSU, and work with WSU’s Accounting program to add an International Accounting course to the curriculum. This flurry of activity and achievement will not surprise anyone who worked with Clyde when he was at KU.

CEAS remains indebted to him for years of ideas, creative energy, and program support. He was the key to CEAS’s outreach to the business community. We are delighted to have him back in the neighborhood, and look forward to future exchanges on business topics and programs of common interest to our centers.
Faculty and Staff Awards

CEAS Advisory Committee Awards

The CEAS Faculty Service Award was presented to Sanae Eda (East Asian Languages & Cultures) for her outstanding contributions to the Center mission.

Research Travel Grants were awarded to Yi Jin (Economics) and Jie Zhang (Linguistics).

Course Development Grants were awarded to Jie Zhang (Linguistics), So-Min Cheong (Geography), Keith McMahon (EALC), Michael Baskett (Theatre & Film), John Kennedy (Political Science), and Deborah Peterson (EALC).

Kemper Awards

In August, Marsha Haufler (Art History) and Yan Bing Zhang (Communications) were surprised with Kemper Fellowships for Teaching Excellence.

Promotions

Michael Baskett (Theatre & Film) and Yoonmi Nam (Fine Arts) were promoted to Associate Professor with tenure by the Kansas Board of Regents.

Huang Named Searchlight Artist

Thomas Huang (Industrial Design) was named a 2007 American Craft Show Searchlight Artist by the American Craft Council. Nominations for Searchlight Artists were reviewed by department chairs of prestigious schools teaching craft, past Council jurors, and the editorial team of AMERICAN CRAFT, a magazine created by the Council.

2007 Theses & Dissertations

Ling-en Lu, PhD Dissertation: “Sagas, Deities, and Hells: Ming Dynasty Wall Paintings at the Temple of the Three Lords,” History of Art

Noelle Giuffrida, PhD Dissertation: “Representing the Daoist God Zhenwu, the Perfected Warrior, in Late Imperial China,” History of Art


Brenton Sullivan, MA Thesis: “Venerable Fazun and His Influence on Life and Education at the Sino-Tibetan Buddhist Institute,” EALC
New Faculty Spotlight

CEAS welcomes new members to the KU East Asian community

Kris Imants Ercums is the Curator of Asian Art at KU’s Spencer Museum of Art. He is finishing his dissertation, “Envisioning Modernity: Exhibition Culture and Modern Art in China, 1919–1937,” at the University of Chicago.

Ercums focuses his research on Chinese Late Imperial to modern/contemporary painting, exhibition culture, and the history of museums and collecting. Minor research fields include Japanese and European modern art and design.

In 2007, Ercums lived in Beijing supported by a Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship. During his prior PhD studies, he worked as a Rhoades Foundation intern at the Art Institute of Chicago and as a curatorial intern for the Smart Museum of Art in Chicago, as well as a consulting curator for the Milwaukee Art Museum.

Ercums enjoys cooking (especially French), contemporary and traditional fashion, collecting poster art, old photographs, Cultural Revolution memorabilia, and Orientalia made for the U.S. market. He practices yoga and tries to run and swim as often as possible. Other interests include gardening and music, especially classical and electro scene/indie rock.

Maki Kaneko, Assistant Professor of Art History, earned her PhD at the University of East Anglia in Norwich, United Kingdom. Her dissertation, “Art in the Service of the State: Artistic Production in Japan during the Asia-Pacific War,” examines the mobilization of artists during the Asia-Pacific War. Before coming to KU, she was a visiting assistant professor at Northwestern University, Chicago.

Kaneko’s current research focuses on 20th-century Japanese art practices in relation to the state, the impact of Allied occupation on Japanese visual culture, and the representation of cultural heritage in the Japanese empire.


Kaneko enjoys watching ballet and has recently started collecting mid-century art and furniture.
Yang Lu is an Assistant Professor in the KU History Department. Before coming to KU, he taught in Harvard’s East Asian Languages and Civilizations Department and in the East Asian Studies Department at Princeton, where he earned his PhD. His research centers on medieval Chinese history, medieval Chinese Buddhism, and the ninth-century emperor Tang Xianzong.

In 2007, Lu participated in CEAS’s Tea & Talk series, speaking about his research trip to Xi’an, China. During his lecture, he noted recent archeological discoveries in the area, the impact of pilgrims and tourists on the region’s religious sites, and cultural differences between Xi’an and other cities in China.

Lu is an avid photographer and blogger of daily life. He also writes frequently on various scholarly and cultural topics for magazines and newspapers in China.

Akiko Takeyama, Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Women’s Studies, earned her PhD in Sociocultural Anthropology at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. Her dissertation, “The Art of Seduction and Affect Economy: Neoliberal Class Struggle and Gender Politics in a Tokyo Host Club,” examines the roles political economy, social inequality, and subjectivity formation play in the underground world of Japan’s popular host club scene, where mostly young, working-class men “sell” romance to indulge their female clients’ fantasies.

Takeyama lists her research interests as Japan, gender, sexuality, class, the body, popular culture, and neoliberal globalization. She studies “affect economy”—a term she uses to describe the commercialization of feelings, emotions, and romantic relationships—within the intersection of postindustrial consumer culture and neoliberal globalization.

Takeyama enjoys swimming, which she tries to do a couple of times a week. She also likes watching movies, listening to jazz music, and savoring wine and chocolate.

Kyoim Yun, Assistant Professor of East Asian Languages and Cultures, oversees the Korean language program and teaches courses in Korean language and culture. She earned her PhD from the Department of Folklore and Ethnomusicology at Indiana University, Bloomington, with a dissertation on the shamanic rituals of Cheju Island, South Korea, and how they were affected by the 2002 World Cup. She spoke about her research in November for the CEAS Tea & Talk lecture series, showing slides and videos that she took while conducting field research on the island.

Yun’s article, “The 2002 World Cup and a Local Festival in Cheju: Global Dreams and the Commodification of Shamanism,” was recently published in the *Journal of Korean Studies*.

Yun is a member of the American Folklore Society, Association for Asian Studies, and the American Anthropological Association. In her spare time, Yun practices yoga.
2007 Outreach Notes

The new and the tried-and-true combined to make this a stellar year for Outreach. Chinese for Children, an evening class for young children; an after-school Chinese program for junior high school students; and Five Days of Chinese, an in-school program for students in grades K-4, joined such old favorites as the East Asian Story Time and teacher workshops to foster greater language and cultural awareness among a more extensive demographic than in years past.

Chinese for Children was conceived as a class that would introduce young non-heritage speakers to some basic Chinese vocabulary and culture. The first six-week session began on September 10 and drew more than 30 people, with 24 of them between the ages of 3 and 8. Average attendance has leveled off at 17 with a good mix of boys and girls. Children learned vocabulary through songs, poems, and activities such as Twister and Bingo. The class incorporated the Total Physical Response method, which engages muscle memory to enhance language learning and retention. Three anecdotes illustrate the success of this program:

• Zuzu Melchor tried out her language skills on a classmate from China by asking her friend what her name was in Chinese. Her friend not only understood and answered her, but took it in her stride as if it was no surprise whatsoever that someone would be speaking to her in Chinese!

• Beatrice vonHolten rattled off the numbers from 1 to 10 and ordered dinner for her brother at the Plum Tree, impressing the owners mightily!

• A few weeks after learning how to answer the question “Ni ji sui?” (How old are you?), Cole Huang came into class and requested particularly that the teacher ask everyone how old they were. Why? He had just had a birthday and was eager to tell us his new age in Chinese: no longer “Si sui” (four), but “Wu sui” (five).

Chinese for Children was reported in the Lawrence Journal-World and on Channel 6. To have a look at the coverage, you can visit http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2007/oct/03/language_program_designed_whet_appetites_chinese/

The Center also received some fine press for its after-school Chinese program for junior high students. A core group of motivated Central Junior High students met for an hour each week to learn language and culture. In addition to vocabulary and grammar, the students learned some authentic Chinese cooking. With the help of CEAS Office Manager Jun Fu, the students not only learned to say dumpling (jiao zi), but also to roll fresh dumpling dough using a Chinese rolling pin, wrap dumplings, and pan fry them; of course, they also got to eat them. Jun also helped with their “final exam,” which consisted of speaking (the students each ordered a dish from the Plum Tree restaurant’s menu in Chinese) and listening comprehension (the waitress announced each dish in Chinese and the students had to claim their food, also in Chinese.) To see the Channel 6 story on this adventure, visit http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2007/nov/28/6news_story_cjhs_students_practice_eat_chinese/?city_local

Five Days of Chinese is a new KSDE standards-based program that is a spin-off of the Monday night Chinese for Children class. The program offers grades K-4 the opportunity to learn some Chinese over a 5-day period. Teachers schedule 45-minute lessons on 5 consecutive days, or 1 day per week for 5 weeks in their own class-
Central Junior High students practiced their language skills by ordering from the Chinese menu at the Plum Tree.

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Kathy Schlesinger of the Kansas City Bonsai Society talks about wire wrapping technique.

Paper bag bonsai forest.

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Kansas City Bonsai Society in October. Participants manipulated wire to see how bonsai artists train tree limbs to grow the way they want and learned to model bonsai trees out of paper bags, a craft they could bring back to their classrooms.

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Kathy Schlesinger of the Kansas City Bonsai Society talks about wire wrapping technique.

Paper bag bonsai forest.

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In September, we celebrated the autumn equinox with the first annual CEAS Mid-Autumn Festival Moon-Viewing Party. Moon tunes played by the Kansas City Chinese Music Ensemble on traditional stringed instruments, including the poignant erhu, alternated with readings of Japanese, Chinese, Korean, and American moon poems. Chinese mooncakes and Kansas mooncakes (donut holes) sweetened the evening, and the gloom engendered by morning rain and afternoon fog lifted spectacularly early in the evening when the moon emerged from behind wispy clouds. The musicians quickly responded by playing “Colored Clouds Catching the Moon.” This was, of course, the stuff of wonderful poetry.

Top row: Kyoim Yun, assisted by Maki Kaneko, reads Korean poems and speaks about the Korean mid-autumn festival, Chuseok; Michiko Ito presents Japanese poems with translation and interpretation by Maggie Childs; audience members sample moon pies.
Middle row: Stan Lombardo confesses his life-long love affair with the moon; Megan Greene and daughter Zuzu sample moon cakes; Yang Lu reads classic moon poems by two of China’s greatest poets, Li Bai and Su Shi; the moon presents itself through the clouds. Bottom row: the Kansas City Chinese Music Ensemble; the moon framed by the Dole Institute terrace; Marsha Hauffler welcomes guests; Yang Lu is interviewed by a student reporter.
International Law Association. In 2007, Bhala continued his lectures at the Command and General Staff College at Ft. Leavenworth, KS, speaking to senior foreign military officers on international trade law and policy. From 2006 to 2007, he served on the advisory committee to the Council on Foreign Relations. This year, he also published two articles and a book chapter.

Jim Butler (Kansas Geological Survey) served as the 2007 Henry Darcy Distinguished Lecturer of the National Ground Water Association. In that capacity, he gave presentations at 54 universities and research institutes on three continents. These included presentations at Peking University and the China University of Geosciences in Beijing, and at National Central University in Taiwan. For the Beijing and Taiwan presentations, he prefaced the scientific portions of his talks, which were delivered in English, with a five-minute segment in Chinese in which he told some stupid jokes and, in Beijing, compared himself (favorably) to Lei Feng, one of his personal heroes.

Edward R. Canda (Social Welfare) co-published a book, Health through Faith and Community: A Study Resource for Christian Faith Communities to Promote Personal and Social Well-being (Haworth Pastoral Press), as well as refereed articles for three journals. He wrote the foreword for Challenging White Privilege: Critical Discourse for Social Work Education (Council on Social Work Education), as well as a book chapter, in Korean, for Empowerment in Social Work (Hakjisa) with K. Kim. Canda was invited to speak at Hallym University and Soongshil University (South Korea); Ritsumeikan University, Kobe Shinwa Women’s University, and the YWCA (Japan); and St. John of God National Hospital (Costa Rica). He also presented papers at the International Conference on Health and Mental Health in Social Work (Hong Kong, China) and the North American Conference on Spirituality and Social Work (Chicago). In fall 2007, Canda used a sabbatical leave to research the development of a theoretical conceptualization of spirituality for social work relevant to diverse national contexts, with an emphasis on East Asia.


Kelly H. Chong (Sociology) has had a productive year supported by a research fellowship. She completed her book manuscript, Agony in Prosperity: Korean Evangelical Women and the Negotiation of Patriarchy for Harvard University Press. Her article “Negotiating Patriarchy: South Korean Evangelical Women and the Politics of Gender” was published in Gender and Society. Another peer-reviewed article entitled “Coping with Conflict, Confronting Resistance: Emotions and Identity Management during Fieldwork in a South Korean Evangelical Community” has been accepted for publication in Qualitative Sociology. Chong organized and chaired a panel entitled “Asian Americans: Emerging Identities and Cultures” for the 2007 Midwest Sociological Society meeting held in Chicago. Chong also gave a guest lecture at Northwestern University and served as a roundtable discussant in a panel entitled “Diversity in the Workplace: Sharing Knowledge, Promoting Leadership” held at the University of Chicago.

Vickie Fu Doll (East Asian Library) presented “Golden Vision: Fifty Years of the University of Kansas East Asian Collection” at the grand opening of the

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**2007 CEAS Faculty Updates**


**Yong Bai** (Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering) organized a workshop, “Rapid Bridge Replacement after Extreme Events,” in China in September. Eleven U.S. scholars met with their Chinese counterparts to present their latest research results, brainstorm innovative research ideas, determine the necessary means to engage students and junior faculty members in research, discuss multinational and multidisciplinary collaboration strategies, develop models to internationalize research and education, and visit four bridge construction sites. The workshop was sponsored by the National Science Foundation (NSF). More than 150 people participated, including students, research associates, and faculty members. More detailed information is available at www.engr.ku.edu/~ybai/.

**Michael Baskett** (Theatre & Film) contributed a chapter in Japanese, “Hariuddo no tennozoe—amerika eiga ni miru id” [“Hollywood’s Vision of the Emperor—Images in American Film”] to Eiga no naka no tenno [The Emperor on Film] (Iwamoto Kenji, ed., Shinwasha, 2007). Baskett’s own book, The Attractive Empire: Transnational Film Culture in Imperial Japan, will be published in April 2008 by the University of Hawaii Press. In December, Baskett delivered a paper, “Translating Japan’s Imperialization Policies into ‘Pan-Asian’ Film Culture,” at the Translation: East Asia and the West Conference held at National Taiwan Normal University in Taipei, Taiwan.

**Raj Bhala** (Law School) was a research fellow at the University of Hong Kong School of Law in July 2007. During his time there, he worked on and presented papers related to international trade law and East Asia for the East Asian International Economic Law and Policy program. He also delivered a lecture, “Limits of the American Trade Empire: Four Cardinal Virtues and the Challenge of the Chinese Yuan,” to the Hong Kong
new C.V. Starr East Asian Library and Chang-Lin Tien Center for East Asian Studies at the University of California at Berkeley. Her paper was published in the conference proceedings, *Over a Hundred Years of Collecting: the History of East Asian Collections in North America* (University of California Berkeley). KU’s East Asian Library was among the top 22 East Asian libraries represented at the conference. Doll has been a co-author of the annual East Asian Libraries in North America collection statistics report since she chaired the Statistics Committee from 1999 to the present. Each year, the print version of annual statistics appears in the *Journal of East Asian Libraries* February issue (http://www.lib.byu.edu/dlib/spc/journal/). Online searchable statistics reports in table and graph formats can be found at http://www.lib.ku.edu/ceal/.

**Arienne Dwyer** (Anthropology) hosted four visiting scholars conducting research on language and culture, two of them on Uyghur identity and linguistics. She is also working on a Uyghur textbook with Mahire Yakup. Due to the work of Dwyer and Yakup, since 2003 EALC has offered two levels of Uyghur language, allowing students to complete their four-semester undergraduate language requirement in this language. Students are also going for summer study at Xinjiang University in China.

In 2007, **Robert Fiorentino** (Linguistics) published an article with David Poeppel titled “Compound Words and Structure in the Lexicon” in *Language and Cognitive Processes* (12, 953-1000). They also presented an invited talk, “Processing of Compound Words: An MEG Study,” to the 45th Annual Meeting of the Academy of Aphasia (October 2007) as part of a symposium on the processing of compound words. Fiorentino began research in his new neurolinguistics laboratory in the Dole Human Development Center (fourth floor, room 4037) at KU, where he is working with graduate and undergraduate students on neurolinguistics and language processing, focusing on languages including English, Japanese, and Chinese.

Last summer, **Sherry Fowler** (Art History) returned to the Sainsbury Institute for the Study of Japanese Arts and Cultures at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London to continue her Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Fellowship. Fowler has been researching images of the Six Kannon cult in Japan, as well as 14th-century paintings for the Six Character Sutra ritual. In spring 2007, she was invited to speak at Harvard University, Vanderbilt University, and the University of Oregon. During spring break, Fowler visited Zurich to view “Kannon, Divine Compassion: Early Buddhist Art From Japan”; she contributed an essay to the exhibition catalogue. At the 2007 AAS meeting, she participated in the Society for Study of Japanese Religion roundtable discussion titled “Putting the History Back in Art History: Recent Site-specific Studies of Japanese Religion.”

**Alison Gabriele** (Linguistics) presented several conference papers in 2007: “Calculating Telicity in Native and Non-native English” at Generative Approaches to Second Language Acquisition; “Why Imperfectives Are Learned Imperfectly” (with Bill McClure) at the International Symposium on Bilingualism; and “Distinguishing between the Present and the Past: Against a Critical Period for Tense in L2 Acquisition” (with Junko Maekawa, Lindsey Ignatowski, and Erik Christensen) at the Boston University Conference on Language Development. Gabriele received a GRF award for her project “Second Language Acquisition at the Interface,” as well as a teaching grant from the Center for Teaching Excellence for her work with Harold Torrence on improving the Linguistics department’s introductory course.

**Elaine Gerbert** (East Asian Languages and Cultures) delivered a lecture, “The Enchantment of the Almost Real,” at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She presented a paper at the 19th Annual Meeting of the International Society for Humor Studies in Newport, RI (“An Interrogation of Visual Humor in Japan”). She was invited to represent the United States at the inauguration of Meiji University’s new faculty of International Japanese Studies, which also featured representation of Japanese Studies in Austria, China, England, Germany, Holland, Italy, and Korea. While in Tokyo, Gerbert also gave a presentation on her research interests in Asakusa for the Asakusa Study Symposium. Her paper, “On View: The Peepshow World in Taisho Fiction,” was read in absentia at the Asian Studies Conference Japan at Meiji Gakuin University in Tokyo. Gerbert’s review of Tim Van Compernolle’s *The Uses of Memory: The Critique of Modernity in the Fiction of Higuchi Ichiyō* appeared in the *Autumn 2007 issue of Monumenta Nipponica*.

**Patricia J. Graham** (CEAS Research Associate) published *Faith and Power in Japanese Buddhist Art, 1600-2005* (University of Hawai‘i Press) and an essay for the National Gallery of Australia exhibition catalogue *Black Robe, White Mist: The Art of the Japanese Buddhist Nun Ottagki Rengetsu*. Graham wrote two book reviews for the *International Institute for Asian Studies Newsletter*, as well as a review of *The Hotel Encyclopedia of Japanese Woodblock Prints* for the College Art Association Reviews Online (April 2007; http://www.caareviews.org/reviews/975). She presented lectures at the Museum Kaneko (Omaha, NE); Willamette University (Salem, OR); Ohio State University; and Ohio Wesleyan University, and served as an invited presenter at the American Academy of Religion annual meeting (Washington, DC). As a team member conducting assessments of Asian art at college campuses for a Luce Foundation-funded project, Asian Art in the Undergraduate Curriculum, Graham assessed Asian art collections at Ohio Wesleyan University and Willamette University.


**Jie Han** (Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering) conducted a number of funded research projects in 2007. He published articles in the *ASCE Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering* and *Computers and Geotechnics*. He also presented papers at the 5th International Symposium on Earth Reinforcement (Fukuoka, Japan); GeoDenver 2007 (Denver, CO); and the International Workshop on Constitutive Modeling—Development, Implementation,
Evaluations, and Application (Hong Kong). In 2007, Han was the recipient of many awards: the 2007 Miller Professional Development Award for Distinguished Service to the Engineering Profession; the Graduate Recruiting Award, KU Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering; and the KU Big 12 Faculty Fellowship.

Marsha Haufler (Art History) presented papers at two symposia, “Only Suitable for the Monk’s Quarters” at the University of Pennsylvania Museum and “A Monk at the Party” at the University of California, Berkeley. She also gave a lecture, “Tangkas for the Ming Court,” at Princeton University, and another version of this talk at Vanderbilt University.

Summer 2007, she traveled to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to visit Pyongyang and Kaesong, and gave an illustrated talk on the trip for the CEAS “Tea and Talk” series. Fall 2007, she again participated in the annual Korea Foundation Workshop for Korean Art Curators held in Seoul. Haufler continues to chair the editorial board of Archives of Asian Art. In fall 2007, she taught a graduate seminar with Marc Wilson, Director/CEO of the Nelson-Akins Museum in Kansas City; the ten students in the seminar planned a new installation for the museum’s Chinese painting gallery, which is currently on view. Two of Haufler’s graduate students, Ling-en Lu and Noelle Giuffrida, completed their doctoral degrees in 2007. She won a Kemper Teaching Award in 2007.

John Head (Law School) published four books in 2007. His General Principles of Business and Economic Law (Carolina Academic Press) surveys certain concepts of business and economic law that hold true in most countries despite the diversity of legal systems. Global Business Law: Principles and Practice of International Commerce and Investment (Carolina Academic Press) is a treatise designed for students and practitioners of international business transactions. Economic Law Topics and Curriculum and A General Introduction to Economic Law (University of Wisconsin) are revised second editions first published in Bahasa, Indonesia, in 1998. In October, Head taught at Anhui University of Xalapa (Veracruz, Mexico), and organized a symposium on Law and Policy in International Financial Institutions featuring speakers from around the world. He is currently serving as both president of the KU chapter of Phi Beta Delta, the honor society for international scholarship, and a member of the University search committee to find a new Vice Provost of International Programs.

Yi Jin (Economics) visited the China Construction Bank and worked on a project with a co-author at the China Center for Economic Research. This project is motivated by the two important observations about China’s economic transition: the large percentage of nonperforming loans (NPLs) within the banking system, and the dissipation of state-owned assets. In this project, the authors study the causes and consequences of NPLs and asset dissipation, their interaction, their linkages with the cross-sector asymmetry in the transition process, and the development of the non-state sector. Their findings will also serve as the basis for policy analysis and the design of reform strategies.


John Kennedy (Political Science) designed a course on fieldwork in China, Central Asia, and similar developing countries. He sponsored a visiting scholar, Huang Fengzhi (Jilin University, China), to develop research in international and U.S.-China relations. Kennedy’s work with the Northwest Socio-economic Development Research Center (NSDRC) won grants to support the examination of rural education in northwest China (Ford Foundation) and to establish the first Parent Teachers Association in rural China (Plan International). He contributed a book chapter to Politics of China (Oxford University Press). Kennedy presented papers at the 20th Annual Meeting of the Association of Chinese Political Studies (San Francisco) and at the International Conference on State Capacity of China in the 21st Century (Hong Kong). He was also an invited speaker at Missouri Southern State University, School of Advanced Military Studies in Fort Leavenworth, and Free State High School, Lawrence.


In January, Amy McNair’s (Art History) Donors of Longmen: Faith, Politics, and Patronage in Medieval Chinese Buddhist Sculpture was published by the University of Hawai’i Press. In November, she gave the 20th annual Sammy Yukuan Lee Lecture on Chinese Art and Archaeology at the University of California, Los Angeles. The lecture was entitled “Forty-eight Buddhas of Measureless Life: Court Eunuch Patronage at the Sculpture Grottoes of Longmen,” and it was fairly well attended, considering it was a beautiful sunny Saturday afternoon and Bill Clinton was also speaking on campus that day!

So Yeon Park (Fine Arts) had two solo art exhibitions: “Story Telling Listening Series IV: The Inner Room of Women” (Seoul, Korea) and “Story Telling Listening Series II: Tapping into Urban Youth” (YWCA Theatre and Chameleon Arts and Youth Development, Kansas City, MO). Her work was also exhibited in group shows at the Seoul Museum of Art (SEMA); Yeonheedong195 (Seoul); IASK Changdong National Art Studio (Seoul); and Chameleon Arts and Youth Development in conjunction with the Southern Graphics Council Conference (Kansas City, KS). Park lectured at De Jin University in Seoul; served as an advisor to the Seoul Foundation of Women and Family; and was a panelist for the roundtable discussion in conjunction with the Yeonheedong195 Project. Her work was also featured in various publications: the “Changdong Artist Residency 2007” catalogue; the “No-Made Open Studio”
Eric C. Rath (History) completed writing a book on cuisine in early modern Japan. He has been invited to present part of his research in Japanese for a special issue of the journal Kokubungaku (Japanese literature). He presented talks on his research on the history of Japanese foodways for an invited lecture at Kalamazoo College and for the annual meetings of the Association for Asian Studies and the Midwest Conference on Asian Affairs, where he also organized a panel on meat-eating taboos in premodern Japan. He is co-editing a volume, Past and Present in Japanese Foodways, and has completed a chapter on warrior cuisine and diet for the forthcoming book Alternative Histories of the Samurai. Besides his continued interest in the performing arts and foodways, he is embarking on a new research project on divination in early modern Japan.

Catherine Shenoy (School of Business) and Ying Jenny Zhang published a paper, “Order Imbalance and Stock Returns: Evidence from China” in the Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance. Shenoy’s Applied Portfolio Management class has about 40% of its holdings in Chinese companies. They continue to speak with analysts and company executives to monitor the companies. Shenoy also wrote a book, Applied Portfolio Management: How University of Kansas Students Generate Alpha to Beat the Street, that will be published Spring 2008. One of the chapters is titled “Investing in China.”

Gregory Simpson (Chair of Psychology) recently published “Developmental, Cross-linguistic Perspectives on Visual Word Recognition” in Language and Speech, with Hyewon Kang. He is also currently serving as co-editor, with Chungsun Lee of Seoul National University, and Youngjin Kim of Ajou University, of the Handbook of Korean Psycholinguistics, to be published in 2008 by Cambridge University Press.


Bill Tsutsui (Chair of History) presented lectures at Kalamazoo College, the University of South Carolina, the Alaska World Affairs Council, the Davis Center at Princeton University, the University of Colorado at Boulder, Japan Society in New York City, and the University of Kentucky. He also gave plenary addresses at the World Forum of Confucius Institutes in Kyoto, Japan, and at the annual meeting of the National Council for Geographic Education. He served as a scholar in residence at Johnson County Community College, was awarded KU’s George and Eleanor Woodyard International Educator Award, and was elected to the Northeast Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies. His article, “Looking Straight at Them! Understanding the Big Bug Movies of the 1950s,” was published in Environmental History. In January 2007, he became chair of the Department of History.

Crispin Williams (East Asian Languages and Cultures) gave an invited talk and led a reading session for the “China Before Print” workshop at the University of Chicago. He presented a paper, “A Phonological Study of the Wenxian Covenant Texts: Loangraphs, Phonetic Components, and the Question of Velar Palatalization,” at the American Oriental Society’s annual meeting. Williams attended the third “Intensive Seminar on Early Chinese Phonology” at the University of Leiden, where he gave a presentation on palaeographical and phonological issues in the analysis of the Houma and Wenxian texts. In September, he began a year of research leave in China, where he is collaborating with the Henan Provincial Institute of Archaeology to publish the Wenxian Covenant Texts, a set of excavated texts dating to the fifth-century BCE. This project and his own research on these materials were supported in 2007 by a Franklin Research Grant from the APS and a Postdoctoral Fellowship in East Asian Archaeology and Early History from the ACLS.

Ketty Wong (School of Fine Arts, Music) finished her PhD in Ethnomusicology at the University of Texas at Austin in May 2007. She coordinated a Japanese music concert, “Asian Soundscapes: Silk and Bamboo in Japanese Music,” given by David Wheeler and Yoko Hiraoka and co-sponsored by CEAS in September 2007.

Fiona Yap (Political Science) was part of the U.S. Academic Delegation to Taiwan, August 12–17, 2007, which was coordinated by Taiwan’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and included 10 academic scholars across the United States. Yap presented a paper, “Taiwan’s Democratization As a Test of Economic Theories,” at an invited-conference on the “Taiwan, China and Democratization in East Asia Conference” held at Missouri State University on September 27-28, 2007. She also presented “Government Spending and Party System Development in Pre- and Post-Democratization Nations: Lessons from Taiwan” at an invited workshop on “Governance across Regime Types,” held by the School of Social and Political Studies at the University of Edinburgh, UK, 20-26 October, 2007.

Kyooim Yun (East Asian Languages and Cultures) presented two papers in the fall of 2007: “Crafting ‘Authentic’ Shamanic Rituals during the 2002 World Cup” for the CEAS Tea and Talk series, and “Myth and Ritual of Exchange in Shamanic Practice on Cheju Island, South Korea” at the Annual Meeting of the American Anthropological Association held in Washington, DC, November 28-December 2, 2007. She served as guest editor for the special issue of Folklore Forum 38, no. 1 (2008) on Folklore of East Asia and has been serving on the editorial board of The Journal of Shamanic Practice: Exploring Traditional and Contemporary Shamanism, an international peer-reviewed journal.

Yan Bing Zhang (Communications) won a Kemper Teaching Award with a monetary award of $5,000 at KU in Fall 2007. She also presented one paper at a conference and published two articles last year.

Mary Zimmerman (Sociology) taught modules on Eastern Medicine and on the Japanese Health Care System in her courses in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the KU School of Medicine. She also lectured on Eastern Medicine for the KU School of Business. She published an article on hospital-sponsored women’s health clinics in the June 2007 issue of Gender & Society.
Our 2007-2008 FLAS Recipients

Michelle Bridges (MA student, Linguistics) studied advanced (third-year) Uyghur in an intensive summer program at Xinjiang Normal University, China; she is writing a Master’s thesis on auxiliary verbs in Uyghur.

Michael Doveton (MA student, Anthropology) used his summer FLAS to take an intensive second-year course in Korean at the Language Education Institute at Seoul National University, South Korea. He will use Korean to do research on social control and the totalitarian nature of North Korean society.

Joshua Shireman (MA student, Curriculum and Instruction, TESOL, School of Education) took second-year Uyghur and first-year Mandarin in an intensive summer program at Xinjiang Normal University, China. He will use this experience to develop effective language learning strategies to help his students in the future.

Rachel Voorhies (MA student, History of Art) studied fourth-year Chinese at the International Chinese Language Program, National Taiwan University, with her summer FLAS. This training will be essential to her PhD research.

Dusty Clark (MA student, History) took fourth-year Japanese at Summer Intensive Language Studies at Beloit College in Wisconsin, and he is now continuing his Japanese language study at KU.

Steve Davis (MS student, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology) is taking third-year Mandarin to prepare for conducting weevil (beetle) systematic research in China.

Karin Warch (MA student, History of Art) is enrolled in third-year Korean at KU in preparation for future research in Korea on Korean art history.

Scholarships Abroad

Freeman Scholarships
Michael Edmonds (Academic Year 2007-2008, Sophia University, Japan)
Nicholas Kellerman (Academic Year 2007-2008, Obirin University, Japan)
Luis Vargas (Fall 2007, Nanzan University, Japan)
Dori White (Academic Year 2007-2008, Okayama University, Japan)

Bridging Scholarship
Luis Vargas (Fall 2007, Nanzan University, Japan)

Japan Student Services Organization (JASSO) Scholarship
Dori White (Academic Year 2007-2008, Okayama University, Japan)
Michael Edmonds (Academic Year 2007-2008, Sophia University, Japan)

Gilman Scholarship
Tung Le (Fall 2007, Hong Kong University)
Sam Schneider (Spring 2008, Hong Kong University)

Chinese Government Scholarship
Michael Banh Academic Year 2007-2008, Zhongshan University, PRC)
East Asian Languages and Cultures Awards and Scholarships

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

*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 2007 recipient was **Thomas Barker.**

*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 **Daniel Vanderhorst.**

*The Higuchi Japanese Language Award:* Given to the best Japanese language student each year in memory of the late Prof. Takeru Higuchi, Regents’ Professor of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. The 2007 recipient was **Deanna Hogan.**

*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 **Erin Billing** (Chinese), **Kari Leeka** (Chinese), **Bryce Clarke** (Japanese), **Michael Bourbon** (Japanese), **Lamar Hunt** (Korean), and **Robert Charles Long** (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 **Maria Ahmad.**

*Japan-America Student Conference (JASC):* The winner for 2007 was **James Piller.**

Amsden Awards

At the annual Amsden Awards ceremony in Art History, **Shuli Han** was presented the Marilyn Stokstad award; **Sooa Im** received the Scholarship for Academic Excellence in Asian Art History; **Ghichul Jung** received the Morris Family Scholarship; and **Shu-Yun Ho** was presented the Lawrence Sickman Award for achievement in the study of Chinese art.

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 2007 recipient was **Erik Buchholz,** who is majoring in Chinese and Psychology with minors in Business and Japanese. He used the scholarship to study at the Hiratsuka Japanese Summer Institute.

21st Annual Japanese Language Speech Contest

Sponsored by the Consulate General of Japan at Chicago. KU Japanese Student Association Vice President **Iefan Thompson** won the Japan Airlines Award for a presentation titled, “My Hiroshima Experience and Article 9.”
KU-Hongik Direct Exchange Focuses on Art

CEAS faculty member Yoonmi Nam (Fine Art) initiated the new KU exchange program with Hongik University in Seoul, South Korea. This program will allow the exchange of students between the Art departments of the two universities in the spring semester of each year.

Nam received her BFA from Hongik University, which boasts one of Korea’s leading art departments, and she remains in close touch with the faculty there. She came up with the idea for the exchange as a result of her service on the KU Art Department’s study abroad committee. She was inspired by the department’s very successful direct exchange with the Edinburgh College of Art established by Judith McCrea, and she wished to arrange a similar exchange with her alma mater.

Nam approached Sue Gronbeck-Tedesco, Director of the KU Study Abroad Program. She pointed out that because many faculty members and students at Hongik speak English, and also because of the one-to-one nature of much of the instruction, non-Korean-speaking students could function in the art classes there. The Office of Study Abroad then carried the ball, obtained the approval, and launched the exchange.

The first student to come to KU from Hongik, Chung Inn Lee, is a junior in printmaking. Ms. Lee was chosen for the exchange by a rigorous selection process that included being interviewed in English by members of the Hongik faculty. The KU Art Department selected Andrew Jilka, also a junior in printmaking, to go to Hongik University this semester. Nam tutored him in Korean, and he plans to take a Korean language class at Hongik. Jilka will also meet with Lee to learn more about Hongik before he departs.

Fortunately, two KU Art Department graduates are currently living in Seoul, and they will help Jilka get oriented when he arrives. Nam explained that this is how things are done in Korea: through personal relationships. Lee and Jilka will undoubtedly have very different, but equally exciting semesters.

We will ask both of them to write a few lines about their experiences for next year’s annual report. In the meantime, our hat is off to Nam for initiating this very promising new program.

MBA Students Visit China

A group of graduate students at the University of Kansas School of Business discovered first-hand why China is such a dominant player in today’s global economy.

From May 19 to June 1, 2007, nineteen Master’s of Business Administration students traveled in China and met with managers and executives at U.S.- and Chinese-owned firms in Beijing and Shanghai. They toured textile manufacturing plants and learned about the latest plans for Beijing’s Internet promotion of the 2008 Olympic Games. They visited with China-based executives of Kansas firms such as Black & Veatch and Invista, owned by Koch Industries, to learn about adapting U.S. businesses to Chinese corporate and social cultures.

“It seems like almost every business is global,” said Mark Randall Best, from Larned, KS, a second-year MBA student.

“It’s really good, especially for MBA students, to see businesses from a different perspective. You learn so much more when you’re actually there, first-hand.”

Before traveling to China, the students researched the firms they were to visit. After they returned, they gave presentations to fellow MBA students and KU faculty. The research, trip, and subsequent presentations were all part of the Business in China class taught by Jane Zhao, Assistant Professor of Management and CEAS member.

“We had a very thorough preparation, which allowed the students to obtain deeper insights from the Chinese managers,” Zhao said. “If you can survive in China, you can survive any other place,” Zhao noted with reference to the unique business environment in China.

In addition to Zhao, who set up many of the corporate visits, Doug Houston, Director of Finance, Economics and Decision Sciences in the Business School, accompanied the students in China.

Houston observed that the United States’ interest in China has moved well beyond the industry sector to which many U.S. businesses outsource jobs. Companies here and around the world are now focused on developing partnerships with Chinese firms, a move regarded as key to survival in the 21st century.

Business in China is “not just a matter of cheap labor, but having extremely effective management and people,” Houston said. “China is a more complicated and diverse place than people give it credit for. It’s a good place to have an educational presence.”

KU’s School of Business and Center for International Business Education and Research (CIBER) sponsored and organized the trip.
Transitions

Three East Asian Studies majors at different stages of their careers.

Tony Raymond dreamed of two things: living in Japan and landing a prestigious job in the automotive industry. The engineering graduate now will have to come up with a new dream, because at 23 years old, he is already living both of those.

In July, Raymond began his new career in Yokohama, Japan, as an automotive engineer with Bosch Group, one of the world’s largest private industrial corporations.

“It’s like it all happened at once,” he said. “The perfect job in the perfect place.”

A curiosity and respect for other cultures was fed through the Raymond family’s participation in a student exchange program while he was a child. “We had students from Poland, Spain, Portugal, Brazil, and Japan,” he said.

In summer 1996, he hosted Yuichi Kano, a student from Japan, and dedicated himself to learning his new friend’s native language.

The demands of a college engineering major did not slow down his language study. He took more than 50 hours of Japanese and East Asian studies courses, even though he could count only seven of them toward his engineering degree. He spent his sophomore year in Tokyo.

His two passions paid off during a recent career fair. With his mechanical engineering major and knowledge of Japan, he stood out. Bosch hired him to work in Yokohama, where he will test and tune engines and set engine parameters.

Christopher Mayo, a 2007 East Asian Languages and Cultures MA graduate. “Just about everything I watched had something to do with China or Japan: Bruce Lee movies, Star Wars, Kung Fu, Shogun, Nausicaa of the Valley of the Wind, Voltron, etc.”

Mayo’s curiosity about East Asian culture later influenced his choice of extracurricular activities in college. “Judo, karate, aikido, and rowing brought me into contact with Japanese culture and new friends who were studying Japanese,” he explained. “I began to think seriously about making East Asia a career in my sophomore year, and started studying Japanese.”

After graduating with a BA in East Asian Languages and Cultures (EALC) from KU, he moved to Japan to teach English on the JET Program. At the end of his 3-year contract, Mayo remained in Japan for six more years, teaching and translating while pursuing his interests in aikido, karate, taiko drumming, Buddhism, and calligraphy. He reports especially appreciating his KU language training when he was placed in rural areas; his knowledge of Japanese made it possible for him to establish close friendships.

Mayo returned to KU in 2005 to earn his MA in EALC. He graduated, with honors, with his thesis titled, “Impermanence and Retribution: A Re-Examination of Two Unifying Themes in the Tale of the Heike.” His research earned him a full scholarship to Princeton, where he is now working toward a PhD in late-medieval and early-modern Japanese history.

Schneiderwind’s research in Japan is focused on the power relationship between lawmakers and society in the control of sex and sexuality in Japan following World War II. “I am hoping to determine how political ideas toward sex and sexuality were debated, decided, and ultimately disseminated to the Japanese public to create a collective sexual attitude,” he explained.

In August 2007, Schneiderwind witnessed yet another event firsthand in Japan: the birth of his daughter in Kawasaki.
Darrell Allen, PhD, History, 2004, is teaching at Seattle Pacific University.


Janet Baker, PhD, Art History, 1991, is Curator of Asian Art at the Phoenix Art Museum.

Todd Barrett, BA, 2004, will graduate from KU medical school this spring.


Sarah Blick, PhD, Art History, 1994, is Associate Professor and Chair of Art History at Kenyon College.

Claudia Brown, PhD, Art History, 1985, is Professor of Art History at Arizona State University and research curator for Asian Art at the Phoenix Art Museum.

P. Ernest Caldwell IV, MA, EALC, 2007, is pursuing his PhD in premodern Chinese studies at the University of Chicago. He is working on the development of early Chinese legal institutions. He got married in June of 2007 and will be moving this coming summer to Singapore with his wife Leigh, who will be on the faculty at the National University of Singapore.

Kerry Carlon, BSW, 2006, has been teaching English in Korea for the past two years.

Frank Chance, MA, Art History, 1976, is Associate Director of the Center for East Asian Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Joseph Chang, PhD, Art History, 1995, is Curator of Chinese Art at the Freer and Sackler Galleries of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Qing Chang, PhD, Art History, 2005, is Curatorial Fellow in Asian Art at the University of North Carolina’s Ackland Art Museum.

Diana Chou, PhD, Art History, 2001, is Assistant Professor of Art History at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio.

Christina Chu, PhD, Art History, 1990, former Chief Curator at the Hong Kong Museum of Art, presented a paper on 20th century Chinese painting to the Oriental Ceramic Society of Hong Kong in 2007.

Paul Clark, MA, EALC, 1994, is Assistant Professor of History at West Texas A&M University.

Brian Cleveland, MA, EALC, 2003, is pursuing a PhD in EALC at the University of Illinois.

Mark Cooledge, MA, EALC, 1999, lives in El Paso with his wife, Deborah, and two young daughters, and works for Prudential Relocation, for whom he is the Network Manager for Intercultural Services. He manages a network of trainers around the globe who conduct intercultural training sessions for relocating employees of their clients. He does not get to use his Chinese often, but he reports that his KU education has really helped him to do his job well.

Christopher (“Chip”) Dewell, MA, EALC, 2002, will begin a tenure track position as an Assistant Professor of History at Hiram College in Ohio in fall 2008.

Alan Dibos, BA, 2006 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is pursuing a PhD in Physics at Harvard University.

David Dunfield, MA, Art History, 1976, is an architect in Lawrence, Kansas.

Paul Dunscombe, PhD, History, 2001, is Associate Professor of History at the University of Alaska at Anchorage.

Jennifer Farwell, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is in the Peace Corps.

Patricia J. Fister, PhD, Art History, 1983, is Professor at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies in Kyoto.

Eric Garrett, BA, 2004 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is working for a fireworks manufacturing company in Liuyang city in Hunan, China.

Karen Gerhart, PhD, Art History, 1992, is Associate Professor of Art History at the University of Pittsburgh.

Laura Geritz, BA, 1994, MA, EALC, 2004, lives in Colorado and works as an international equities analyst specializing in Asian consumer stocks, a job that allows her to travel to Asia frequently.

Noelle Giuffrida received her PhD in Art History in fall 2007 and is teaching Asian art at Vassar College. She and George Armhold were married in October of 2007.

Hollis Goodall, MA, Art History, 1980, is Curator of Japanese Art at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art.


Junghee Han, PhD, Art History, is Professor of Art Studies at Hongik University in Seoul, Korea.

Taylor Hart, BA, 2007, is in Toulouse, France, teaching English.

Jimmy Haver, BA, 2007, is in Taiwan studying Chinese.

Nancy (Dolinich) Hope, MA, Art History, 1992, is Associate Director of the Kansas Consortium for Teaching about Asia based in CEAS at KU, and also Associate Director for Education of the Confucius Institute at KU.

Alice Hsu, BA, 2003, MA, International Studies, 2005, is working as Product Manager for a small travel accessories company and is in charge of the women’s division within the company as well as another sub-brand. In the fall of 2008, she hopes to be entering law school with a concentration in intellectual property law or international corporate law.

Brenda Jordan, PhD, Art History, 1993, is Assistant Director of Educational Outreach, Japan Studies Coordinator, and Adjunct Assistant Professor of History of Art and Architecture at the University of Pittsburgh.

Arthur Mu-sen Kao, PhD, Art History, 1980, is Associate Professor of Art History at San Jose State University.
Dan Krejci, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is working for Tradebot Systems in Kansas City.

Karil Kucera, PhD, Art History, 2002, is Luce Assistant Professor of East Asian Visual Culture in the departments of Asian Studies and Art and Art History at St. Olaf College in Northfield, Minnesota.

Nathan Ladd, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is Asia Sales Representative for Labconco Corporation.


He Li, MA, Art History, 1990, is Associate Curator of Chinese Art at the Asian Art Museum of San Francisco.

Ling-en Lu received her PhD in Art History in spring 2007 and is Assistant Curator of Chinese Art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City.

Maria Maldonado, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is teaching in the Teach for America program.

Kazumi Maniwa, MA, Linguistics, 2002, is a postdoctoral research fellow at the University of Konstanz in Germany.

Shannon Marsh, BA, 2006 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is in her second year teaching middle school reading in south Memphis for the Teach for America program.


Rachael Opdyke Nickerson, BSW, 2005 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, Korea), MSW, 2006, works in the research staff in the Office of Aging and Long Term Care in the KU School of Social Welfare. She remains interested in understanding the role of cultural diversity in aging issues and problems.

Midori Oka, MA, Art History, 1995, is Associate Curator of Japanese Art and Culture at the Peabody Essex Museum in Salem, MA. She curated the current exhibit, Stage Idols: Japanese Kabuki Theater.

An-yi Pan, PhD, Art History, 1997, is Associate Professor of Art History at Cornell University and recently published Painting Faith: Li Gonglin and Northern Song Buddhist Culture.

Brian Pitts, BA 2007, is teaching in Denver in the Teach for America program.

Andrea Pfeiffer, MSW, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, Korea), is a mental health social worker at Wyandotte Mental Health Center. After her Kansas Asia Scholars experience, she returned to Korea for a summer of intensive language study; her long-term goal is to complete a PhD in social work with a focus on Asian and Asian American issues.

Loretta Pyles, BA, 1994, PhD in Social Work, 2005 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, Korea), is Assistant Professor of Social Work at Tulane University in New Orleans. One of her areas of interest is incorporating Buddhist social activism into social work.

Boyce Richardson, BA, 2005 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, Japan), is in his final year of law school at Wake Forest University School of Law in Winston-Salem, NC. Currently, he is visiting at Temple University Japan, and after he graduates he hopes to find a job in East Asia.

John Schneiderwind, BA, 1999, is a doctoral candidate in KU’s Department of History doing dissertation research in Japan and enjoying being the proud daddy of Tomoko, born August 2007. (See story on pg. 24.)

Dayton Segard, BGS, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, Japan), is living in Tempe, AZ, and working as a landscape designer while trying to figure out a way to return to Asia.

Yoshiaki Shimizu, MA, Art History, 1968, is Frederick Marquand Professor of Art and Archaeology at Princeton University.

Jason Steuber, BA, 1993, MA, EALC, 1997, is Cofrin Curator of Asian Art at the Harn Museum of Art at the University of Florida.

Yuichi Tamura, PhD, Sociology, 2002, is Assistant Professor of Sociology at SUNY Geneseo.

Diana Tenckhoff, PhD, Art History, 2002, is Assistant Professor of Art History at Southwestern University in Georgetown Texas.

Hans Thomsen, MA, Art History, 1998, is Professor of East Asian Art History at the University of Zurich.


Michelle Tran, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is pursuing an MA in public policy at Harvard University.

Jason VanBlaricum, BA, 2005, recently returned from two years teaching English in Japan through the JET Program. Now he is tutoring for the KU athletics department and planning a career as an educator.

Margaret Baptist Wan, BA, 1991, is Assistant Professor of Languages and Literature and Asian Studies at the University of Utah.

Wan Qingli, PhD, Art History, 1991, is Professor of Chinese Art at Hong Kong University. His work is currently being exhibited as part of the Made in Hong Kong exhibition of contemporary art at the Hong Kong Museum of Art. For more on Wan Qingli and his art, see http://www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/Museum/Arts/english/exhibitions/20080101_1.pdf.

Sherrie Watkins-Alvey, MSW, 2005 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, Korea), is a mental health social worker at Wyandotte Mental Health Center. She has done outreach to the Korean American community in the Kansas City Area.
Ankeney Weitz, PhD, Art History, 1994, is Associate Professor of Art and East Asian Studies at Colby College.

Matthew Welch, PhD, Art History, 1995, is Curator of Japanese and Korean Art at the Minneapolis Institute of Art.

Sandra Jean Wetzel, PhD, Art History, 1991, is Associate Professor of Art History at California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo.

Rachel Wilson, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is working for Hallmark.

Richard L. Wilson, PhD, Art History, 1985, is Professor of Art and Archaeology at International Christian University in Tokyo.

Siliang Yang, PhD, 1996, in Chinese Art History, is Regional Vice President of PROS Revenue Management in Houston.

Rachel Wilson, BA, 2007 (former Kansas Asia Scholar, China), is working for Hallmark.

Richard L. Wilson, PhD, Art History, 1985, is Professor of Art and Archaeology at International Christian University in Tokyo.

Jing Ye, MA, International Studies, 2005, is working for Lawrence Plastics. She and Bai Yong are the proud parents of William, born in December 2007.

Yanbing Zhang, PhD, Communications, 2003, is Assistant Professor of Communications at KU.

Elizabeth Schultz, Professor Emerita of English, is co-organizing an international conference, “Beyond Thoreau: American and International Responses to Nature.” Co-sponsored by Tsinghua University and the United States Fulbright Commission, it is billed as the first international conference on ecocriticism in Beijing. The conference will be held October 10–12, 2008. Schultz provided some of the details about this project in a recent interview with Leslie vonHolten.

LVH: Briefly define “ecocriticism.”

ES: Ecocriticism is the study of the ways in which nature is represented in any text—literary, historical, scientific, visual, cinematic, musical, and so on. It is a consideration of how the author/writer/artist/scientist looks at the environment. Whereas one writer might describe nature simply as a backdrop for human affairs, another might compare nature to women in that both have been oppressed by patriarchal systems, and another might recognize the interactions among a wide diversity of living species.

LVH: Has ecocriticism changed considering the current media focus on environmental issues?

ES: The representation of nature has changed dramatically. Many writers and artists are now committed overtly to reflecting on the environment and its relation with human culture. Ecocriticism has become wide open—philosophers, historians, theologians, art historians, as well as literary scholars are practicing it.

LVH: How did the conference come about?

ES: At the Beijing Foreign Studies University (BFSU), where I was teaching on my recent Fulbright, I was assigned to do two courses: American Women Writers and Ecocriticism. This was the first time Ecocriticism—which I had taught at KU—was taught in Beijing. Following a lecture at Tsinghua University, Prof. Wang Ning, chair of the university’s Comparative Literature and Critical Studies, invited me to join Tsinghua in creating a conference on Ecocriticism.

LVH: Much blame is placed on the United States and China when it comes to damaging environmental behavior. In what ways do you see this conference as significant?

ES: “Beyond Thoreau” will allow Americans and Chinese and people from many other cultures to discuss ways in which attention to the environment can enrich and nourish our lives. I believe that just as ecocritics have replaced dualities and hierarchies with the paradigm of the web of life, so this conference will connect people of diverse and new ideas.
The Confucius Institute at the University of Kansas opened May 4, 2006, at the Edwards Campus in Overland Park. It was the fifth institute chartered by the Office of the Chinese Language Council International (Hanban) in the United States. The Institute was founded with the very timely mission of enhancing the understanding of Chinese language and culture in greater Kansas City, the state of Kansas, and the larger Great Plains region.

In the first 18 months, the community language class enrollments consistently surpassed expectations. Innovative corporate partnerships were formed, a program of distance learning courses in Chinese was established, and an active series of cultural programs was launched.

Work with the local business community includes an ongoing partnership with Black & Veatch, a global engineering firm based in Kansas City. Confucius Institute staff offer specially designed seminars on Chinese language and business culture to executives and engineers at the Black & Veatch corporate headquarters. A similar course was offered in January 2008 at Martin Logan, the makers of world-renowned stereo speakers in Lawrence. The Institute also worked with the Kansas Special Olympics, providing an orientation on China to the athletes and trainers who traveled to the 2007 World Games in Shanghai.

The Confucius Institute pioneered the large-scale use of Interactive Distance Learning (IDL) technology in Chinese language instruction. From a state-of-the-art classroom equipped with funding from KU and Hanban, Institute teachers are able to reach students in high schools across the state and the region through advanced videoconferencing technology, bringing Chinese classes to isolated rural towns in Kansas and Arkansas. In 2008, the Institute will use IDL technology to take Chinese language summer camps to communities across the region, with funding from the national STARTALK program. The staff also works constantly with teachers and administrators throughout Kansas and Western Missouri to start and expand Chinese language programs. The workshop, “Chinese Spoken Here: An Intensive Workshop on Starting Chinese,” sponsored by the Kansas Committee for International Education in the Schools, was held in Topeka in December 2006 for over 80 participants.

In recognition of its achievements, KU’s Confucius Institute was named a “Confucius Institute of the Year 2007” by Hanban and the Chinese Ministry of Education. The award was presented at the second annual Confucius Institute Conference in Beijing, which brought together representatives from the more than 210 institutes worldwide. KU’s was one of only four American institutes (and 20 around the world) honored.

The Institute’s success over the past 18 months can be credited to the strong partnerships linking the University of Kansas, Hanban, and Huazhong Normal University in the shared mission of promoting understanding of China; the enthusiastic welcome the Institute has received from the people, schools, and businesses of the region; and our talented staff. Visiting scholars from Huazhong Normal University in Wuhan have embraced the work of the Institute, mastering new technology, and even calling a KU basketball game in Chinese. The Institute is also indebted to the University of Kansas, particularly the personal commitment of Chancellor Robert Hemenway.

For more information about the Confucius Institute, visit their website at http://www.confucius.ku.edu/.

Bill Tsutsui addresses the Confucius Institute Conference in the Great Hall of the People in Beijing in December 2007.

Visiting scholar James Liang teaches a professional development seminar at Black & Veatch in Overland Park.

CI’s “Journey to China” summer camp at the KU Edwards Campus.
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- CEAS programs: lectures, performances, and cultural celebrations
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