As you all know by now, 2015 was my final year as Director of CEAS. I have very much enjoyed this opportunity to work with all of you to help strengthen East Asian Studies at KU and to help extend knowledge about East Asia to the community beyond the university. So-Min Cheong takes over as the new CEAS Director in 2016, and I hope that she has as positive an experience as I have had.

I have often started these notes by saying that the past year “has been an eventful year,” but I don’t think this has ever been truer than for 2015. It was a year full of activities, and CEAS has undertaken some very exciting new projects, but has also grappled with some unexpected challenges. There is no way to describe it all in this short note, and you will find descriptions of a number of our activities in the remaining pages of this report, so let me just mention a few of the more significant things that took place in 2015.

Among the exciting projects was our first East Asian Litfest. This event was the brainchild of Randi Hacker, who modeled it after the KU Litfest, a day-long event for middle schoolers held at KU every year. For the inaugural East Asian Litfest, held in October, Randi brought in three authors, each of whom had written books about East Asian topics aimed at a middle school audience. Middle school students from across Lawrence had the chance to listen to a keynote speech by Newbery-award winner Linda Sue Park, participate in a panel discussion with all three authors, and finally participate in a writing workshop with one of the authors. Teachers and students alike really enjoyed the event, and one participant told me it was one of the best such events she had ever attended. For next year, Randi plans to expand the East Asia Litfest to include more schools from across the region.

A second exciting project was a March conference for faculty in schools of education at universities across the state that was supported by a grant from the Longview Foundation and our Title VI grant. Working closely with Nancy Albrecht, a faculty member in Education at Emporia State University, Nancy Hope put together a day-long conference held at Washburn University in which teacher-educator participants began to work on adding international content to their courses for education students. We invited the other KU Area Studies Centers to participate in this event, which will serve as a model for similar workshops that CEAS will be conducting elsewhere in the future.

Third, I am delighted to report that our MA program in Contemporary East Asian Studies admitted three new graduate students, two of whom started the program in Fall 2015, and one of whom started in Spring 2016. To help better integrate students from across the institution who have an interest in East Asia, Ayako has started a CEAS graduate student group, and I anticipate that she will continue to gather this group at least once a semester in the future.

One challenge that CEAS has tried to grapple with over the past several months has been the decision by the Interim Deans of the Library to rename the East Asia Library (EAL). As of the late Fall, the EAL is now known as the East Asia Collection (EAC). Although a number of us have argued at length that such a name change flies in the face of the EAL’s long history and signals to friends of the EAL as well as external funders that the KU Library’s commitment to the EAL has been reduced, Library Deans and Associate Deans have asserted that it is merely a housekeeping change (they say they can’t have a library within a library) and that there is no reduction in commitment to the EAL/EAC. In spite of these assertions, CEAS has been particularly concerned that the name change may be read by granting agencies as a sign of

Continued on Page 2
KU Employee of the Month. CEAS Outreach Director Randi Hacker (center) was named KU Employee of the Month for October in recognition of her innovative programming on East Asia for the campus and community.

Continued from Page 1

reduced institutional commitment even if there is not any reduction in financial commitment.

You may already know that the College is working towards reconstructing CGIS as a proposed “Institute for International Studies” to which CEAS will be attached, and in preparation for this change, has decided to move all Staff, excepting Assistant Directors, out of the Centers and into CGIS. The Directors and Staff of all of the Centers were formed into a Working Group on Staff Reconfiguration and met throughout the Fall of 2015 to come up with a set of recommendations for how best to reorganize Area Studies Center Staff so as to meet the needs of both CGIS (or, whenever it comes into being, the proposed Institute) and the Area Studies Centers. Because most CEAS Staff positions are partially supported by the CEAS Title VI grant, we anticipate that changes to CEAS staffing will be minimal for the duration of the current grant. However, over time, CEAS Staff will take on tasks for other centers, which, of course, will mean that they will have less time to devote to CEAS matters. Staff reconfiguration is likely to affect CEAS in various ways in the coming years, but I am confident that the Staff and Directors will find ways to work together to support all of the Centers well.

In closing, I wish to extend my enormous thanks to all of the Staff of CEAS, Jun, Randi, Nancy, Megan, and Ayako, for making CEAS such a wonderful place to work, for always having such creative ideas, and for making such great efforts to see those ideas through to fruition. I also want to thank all of the CEAS faculty and the many wonderful students of East Asia who have helped CEAS with various projects over the years I have been at the Center. It has been a pleasure to work with all of you!
Greetings from the Center for East Asian Studies! Since 1959, we have served the Great Plains and beyond with a wide array of educational and outreach programs. Built most recently upon the hard work of Megan Greene, our former Director, as well as the Center staff, our Center continues to enjoy the benefits of the Title VI grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

As the new Director of the Center, my ambition is to expand the Center’s focal areas to include a new emphasis on environmental issues. It is an opportune time for us to take a closer look at these important topics, given the seriousness of the environmental problems faced by a rapidly growing China, an environmentally sensitive Korea, and a disaster prone Japan.

By extending our programs in this direction, I also hope to broaden our participant base to include more people from the fields of science and engineering, and, in the process, create a more inclusive Center for all types of scholars and practitioners.

We will also strive to increase faculty participation in Center activities and encourage collaboration in research and education by holding faculty socials and offering a variety of expanded benefits to our affiliated faculty, including academic editing services.

We want those of you who are KU alumni to be sure you know that you are an invaluable resource in keeping the Center’s past alive and providing wisdom on the future direction of the Center. The Center plans to launch new alumni events and an Annual Fundraising program. The Center will also promote more short and long-term visits from government organizations, foundations, and international organizations, and engage in an exchange of knowledge about and experiences related to East Asia.

Please look for details in the coming months on all the exciting new developments here at CEAS.

Sincerely,

So-Min Cheong

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So-Min Cheong is the new Director of CEAS. She is an Associate Professor in the Department of Geography and Atmospheric Science, with a courtesy appointment in Environmental Studies.

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CEAS MISSION STATEMENT

CEAS produces 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 KU 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.

CEAS.KU.EDU

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CEAS STAFF

So-Min Cheong
Director

Ayako Mizumura
Assistant Director

Randi Hacker
Outreach Director

Jun Fu
Program Coordinator

Megan Phelps
Program Assistant

Nancy Hope
Associate Director, KCTA
Associate Director for Special Projects,
The Confucius Institute at the University of Kansas

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ASSOCIATE PROGRAM STAFF

Sheree Welch Willis
Executive Director, The Confucius Institute at the University of Kansas

Kevin Liu
Associate Director, The Confucius Institute at the University of Kansas

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ABOVE:
National Flowers of Japan (Cherry Blossom)
China (Peony)
South Korea (Hibiscus)
Here are a few of the 2015 CEAS Affiliated Faculty highlights, including a list of those who received promotions, sabbaticals, and other honors and awards.

### 2015 KU PROMOTIONS

- Yan Li, East Asian Languages & Cultures, to Associate Professor
- Hui Xiao, East Asian Languages & Cultures, to Associate Professor
- Kyoim Yun, East Asian Languages & Cultures, to Associate Professor
- Utako Minai, Linguistics, to Associate Professor
- J. Christopher Brown, Geography, to Full Professor

### 2015-2016 SABBATICALS

- Christopher Anderson, Business, Spring 2016
- J. Christopher Brown, Geography, Academic Year 2015-2016
- J. Megan Greene, History, Spring 2016
- Maki Kaneko, History of Art, Fall 2015
- John Kennedy, Political Science, Fall 2015
- ChangHwan Kim, Sociology, Academic Year 2015-2016
- Amy McNair, History of Art, Academic Year 2015-2016
- Kapila Silva, Architecture, Spring 2016
- Ketty Wong-Cruz, Music, Spring 2016
- Hui Xiao, East Asian Languages & Cultures, Fall 2015

### OTHER HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Maya Stiller** received two post-doctoral fellowships: the Soon Young Kim Post-doctoral Fellowship and the ACLS/Robert H.N. Ho Family Foundation Post-doctoral Fellowship in Buddhist Studies. She will spend three years at Harvard to work on her book manuscript.

- **Tailan Chi** was named an Academy of International Business Fellow. The AIB is the leading association of scholars and specialists in the field of international business. Fewer than 2 percent of AIB members are named AIB Fellows.

- **James Thorp**, KU Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology and senior scientist with the Kansas Biological Survey, is the principal investigator on a $4.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation to study rivers in the U.S. and Mongolia. (See also page 6.)

### NEW CEAS-AFFILIATED FACULTY

- **Hui Cai**, Assistant Professor, School of Architecture, Design & Planning is a new CEAS Core Faculty member. Her research interests include architecture, health care design, and the relationship between culture, human behavior and physical environment.

- **Zongwu Cai**, Charles Oswald Professor, Economics, is a new CEAS Core Faculty member. His research interests include econometrics, financial econometrics, quantitative finance and statistics.
**NEW EAST ASIA FACULTY**

**Hong Tien Vu** joined the KU community in Fall 2015 as an Assistant Professor in the School of Journalism with a courtesy appointment to the KU Center for East Asian Studies. His research focuses on international communication, development communication and changes in newsroom practices amid the rise of technological innovations. His research has been published in *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly; Journalism Studies; Journalism: Theory, Practice & Criticism; Asian Journal of Communication; Journal of Information Technology & Politics;* and *Revista de Comunicación,* among others. As a former information and communications manager for Oxfam in Vietnam and with nearly 10 years of journalism experience with various news organizations, including The Associated Press, Vu brings extensive professional experience in both journalism and public relations.

**Yao Li** completed her Ph.D. in Sociology at Johns Hopkins University in February 2015. She joined the Center for East Asian Studies as a lecturer in Fall 2015. Her research interests include social movements, political sociology, development, environmental justice, and Chinese society and politics. Li is completing her first book manuscript, *Play by Informal Rules—Why the Chinese Regime Remains Stable Despite Rising Protests,* which is revised from her dissertation. She published "Fragmented Authoritarianism and Protest Channels" in the *Journal of Current Chinese Affairs* in 2013. Several other journal articles are currently under review. In 2015, she was named an Exemplary Diversity Scholar by the National Center for Institutional Diversity at the University of Michigan. A conference paper based on a chapter of her dissertation won an award from the North American Chinese Sociologists Association in 2014. Her next book project focuses on the stunning rise of environmental activism in China.

**Hak-Ze Kim** began teaching at KU in Spring of 2015. He is a Visiting Assistant Professor with the Department of History and the Center for East Asian Studies. He is currently teaching classes on the cultural history of Korea, focusing on periods prior to the 19th century. He has served as a consultant for the Academy of Korean Studies, and as a researcher for the Advanced Center for Korean Studies, the Tasan Cultural Foundation, and the Institute for the Translation of Korean Classics. Kim received his Ph.D in philosophy from the National University of Singapore in 2009, previously receiving his M.A. from the Academy of Korean Studies, and his B.A. from Korea University. His research interests include early Confucianism, Daoism, Neo-Confucianism, and Lexicography.

**Jungsil Jenny Lee**, Visiting Assistant Professor, Korean Art & Visual Culture, is a new CEAS Core Faculty member. Her research interests include tradition and modernism in Korean art during the first half of the twentieth century; and Korean modern/contemporary art within East Asian and global contexts.

**Hyunjin Seo**, Assistant Professor, School of Journalism and Mass Communications, is a new CEAS Core Faculty member. Her research interests include digital media, network analysis, public diplomacy, nation branding, and public relations.

**Joo Ok Kim**, Assistant Professor, American Studies, is a new CEAS Associate Faculty member. Her research examines the racial legacies of the Korean War through literature and culture.

**Minyoung Kim**, Assistant Professor, School of Business, is a new CEAS Associate Faculty member. His research focuses on international business including the theory of the firm, knowledge transfer, barriers to imitation, value appropriation, innovation strategies, and social network analysis.

**Hyesun Cho**, Assistant Professor, TESOL, Department of Curriculum and Teaching, School of Education, is a new CEAS Core Faculty member. Her research interests include second language/literacy education, academic and social identities of language learners and teachers, critical literacy, participatory action research, critical multiculturalism and technology-integrated instruction.

**Changming Duan**, Professor, School of Education, is a new CEAS Core Faculty member. Her research interests include cross-cultural understanding and multicultural perspectives that enhance the science and practice of counseling psychology.

**Joo Ok Kim**, Assistant Professor, American Studies, is a new CEAS Associate Faculty member. Her research examines the racial legacies of the Korean War through literature and culture.
### TITLE VI-RELATED AWARDS

The following were awarded travel grant and new course development awards for the year 2015.

**International Research Travel**

So-Min Cheong; South Korea
Sherry Fowler; Kyoto, Tokyo, Japan
Maki Kaneko; Tokyo, Kochi, Japan
ChangHwan Kim; Daejeon, Korea
Yan Li; Hohhot, China
Faye Xiao; Beijing, Shanghai, China
Crispin Williams; Beijing, Henan, China
Kyoim Yun; South Korea

**Travel to Academic Conferences**

Michael Baskett
Maggie Childs
Kelly Chong
Devon Dear
Vickie Doll
Arienne Dwyer
Michiko Ito
Keith McMahon
Yue Pan
Eric Rath
Akiko Takeyama
Faye Xiao
Kyoim Yun
Jiso Yoon
Yan Bing Zhang

**Course Development Award**

Devon Dear: EALC/HIST 586: Empire and Ethnicity in Early Modern China

This new course is an upper-division, intensive course on the Ming and Qing expansions. Students will read the most recent research on late imperial China’s non-Chinese populations, both in the borderlands and in the interior. This course overtly addresses many thematic issues such as diaspora, ethnicity, identity, and empire—that extend beyond Chinese history and contributes to KU’s cluster on migration, diaspora, and human trafficking.

### $4.2 MILLION NSF GRANT FUNDS RIVER RESEARCH IN MONGOLIA

It’s hard to exaggerate the importance of rivers in sustaining life for animals and people, but until recently, much scientific inquiry into river systems has been on a small scale. As the influence of climate change takes hold, however, understanding the condition of large riverine “macrosystems” that support life across entire regions becomes increasingly important.

Now, a 5-year, $4.2 million grant from the National Science Foundation will empower researchers from multiple institutions in the U.S. and Mongolia to develop wide-ranging scientific knowledge of river systems spanning two continents. Of that grant, half of the funds will support work at the University of Kansas, the lead institution on the project.

“River macrosystems represent larger spatial areas than studied in the typical ecosystem or landscape study,” said James Thorp, KU professor of ecology and evolutionary biology and senior scientist with the Kansas Biological Survey, who is the lead principal investigator on the new grant. “In our case, we’re studying river macrosystems within ecoregions—mountain steppes, grasslands, desert shrub-forests—enclosed within temperate steppe biomes distributed in the U.S. in North America and Mongolia in Asia.”

Researchers will sample nine rivers spread between the U.S. Great Plains, Great Basin and Mountain Steppes. In Mongolia, they’ll investigate nine rivers within similar ecoregions as those in the U.S. Thorp said that studies of one continent could reveal the future of the other: North American river systems, with their dams and presence of non-native fauna, could foreshadow the future of rivers in Mongolia; in turn Mongolia, which has “one of the strongest warming signals in the North Temperate Zone,” could indicate changes U.S. rivers will undergo in a future of boosted temperatures.

“Mongolia offers us the ability to look at rivers which have not been unduly altered by dams or introduced species and ask what will happen if our climate changes much more in the future,” Thorp said.

—KU News Service

### NEA AWARDS $60K FOR SPENCER EXHIBITION OF ASIAN ART

On Dec. 8, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) announced awards totaling more than $27.6 million, including an Art Works award of $50,000 to the Spencer Museum of Art for the upcoming exhibition “Temporal Turn: Art and Speculation in Contemporary Asia.” Opening in Fall 2016, Temporal Turn will be the first major exhibition at the Spencer following the Phase I renovation.

“Temporal Turn” will inaugurate our audiences to vividly imagine the possibilities and challenges of a globalized future,” said Saralyn Reece Hardy, Spencer Museum director. Organized by Curator of Global Contemporary & Asian Art Kris Ercums, “Temporal Turn” will explore a rich mosaic of ideas about time and history from a generation of artists embedded in what has been dubbed “the Asian Century.” The exhibition draws from the Spencer’s permanent collection and will be augmented by international loans. It features four site-specific commissions by artists Konōike Tomoko, from Japan; Sahej Rahal, India; Park Jaeyoung, South Korea, and Rohini Devasher, India.

The Spencer Museum was one of only two institutions in Kansas to receive a grant in the Art Works category, which supports the creation of new work, lifelong learning in the arts and public engagement with the arts.

—KU News Service
2015 REPORT FROM THE EAST ASIAN LIBRARY

By Vickie Fu Doll, Chinese/Korean Studies Librarian

Since 1966, the East Asian Library at the University of Kansas has facilitated acquisition, processing, and user services for East Asian language materials. For more than fifty years, the EAL collection has supported the teaching, learning, and research goals of the KU Center for East Asian Studies and the mid-America region. The library subscribes to core electronic resources of full-text academic journals, newspapers, ebooks, bibliographies, indexes, statistics as well as censuses, encyclopedias, dictionaries, and legal studies databases. Furthermore, the East Asian languages collection is supported by western language materials on East Asian studies housed in the general library collection and covering a wide spectrum of fields. The East Asian Studies electronic resource can be found at http://guides.lib.ku.edu/ea_e-resources. A variety of subject guides and East Asian course guides can be found at http://guides.lib.ku.edu/research.

KOREA FOUNDATION GRANTS

The East Asian Library was awarded both the 2015 and the 2016 Korean language e-resource grants by the Korea Foundation to continuously support the subscription cost of Korean databases. The grant provides $5,000 both for 2015 and 2016. The East Asian Library has also applied for the BooksOnKorea grant, which provides up to $2,000 worth of Korean print materials, also awarded by the Korea Foundation.

RESEARCH FORUMS

To promote research and library materials, the annual East Asian Studies faculty and graduate student research forums were held at the library on April 10 and 23, respectively. These forums provide faculty and grad students with the opportunity to make brief presentations on their work, get feedback, and learn about their colleagues’ current projects. Graduate students benefit from the chance to practice presenting their work to a supportive audience of their peers and faculty. Five graduate students (including one “defense of dissertation” presentation) and more than a dozen faculty members participated in the 2015 research forums. KU Libraries directors for the Faculty Center and the Graduate Student Center were invited to discuss the services provided by their Centers with faculty and graduate students.

TRAVEL GRANT AWARDS

Kenneth Morrow, Doctor of Philosophy student, Arts and Humanities, the University of Texas at Dallas received the library’s travel grant to conduct dissertation research on how the Nestorian/Jingjiao mission sought to translate its ideas, rhetoric, and rituals to engage Tang Dynasty-era China. Dr. Steve Riep, Asian and Near Eastern Languages, Brigham Young University, visited the library for his work on a monograph project on the depiction of characters with disabilities in modern and contemporary literature and visual arts from China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong.

NEW VIDEO RESOURCES

Michiko Ito and her student assistant Emmi Murao compiled about twenty instructional videos on how to do Japanese cloth wrapping. These videos teach students about Japanese Furōshiki techniques. Videos can be accessed at http://ceas.ku.edu/instructional-videos. Vickie Doll and Megan Greene also recorded a new video about the history of East Asian programs at KU with alumnus Scott Colby. This interview and links to others like it can be found at http://ceas.ku.edu/interview-alumnus-scott-colby.

2015 DATABASE TRIAL

The East Asian Library has conducted several database trials: Zhongguo fangzhi ku (China local gazetteers) by the Beijing Erudition Digital Technology Research Center; Dacheng gu zhi dui (Dacheng data) by Beining SuperStar Company, which includes historical periodicals and monographs published between 1840 and 1949 in China in humanities, social sciences, and some applied sciences. Chosun Ilbo Archive and Donga Ilbo Archive both provide searchable metadata and full-images from 1920 to the present in pdf format. The Yomiuri Newspaper Yomidasu rekishikan covers news from Japan from 1874 to the present. Vickie Doll, Chinese and Korean Studies Librarian, attended the North America Library Workshop on Chinese Film and Television in Beijing, China, in June, one of 20 librarians from the U.S. The group visited many film institution libraries and archives and discussed ways to acquire independent films and documentaries. Vickie also attended the Third Sino-American Academic Library Forum for Cooperation and Development in Chengdu, Sichuan Province and the Center for Tibetan Studies, the Center for Western Frontier Security and Development of Collaborative Innovation, the South Asian Studies Center, and the Chinese Rare Book collection at Sichuan University.

2015 COLLELECTION NUMBERS

As of June 2015, the total holdings of the East Asian Library consisted of approximately 337,800 items. This includes:

- 297,541 print volumes
- 27,000 perpetual and subscription eBooks
- 13,240 other materials
- Journal and eJournal titles include:
  - 7,432 Chinese
  - 1,589 Japanese
  - 5,040 Korean

The KU East Asian collection is among the top 20 collections in North America, and 11th among public funded collections in the U.S.
These students received scholarships for summer 2015 or the 2015-2016 academic year. Current students can find information about available scholarships and grants from KU and other institutions at http://ceas.ku.edu/scholarships.

**CEAS JILL KLEINBERG SCHOLARSHIP**

Anna Hu was awarded a $1,000 Jill Kleinberg Scholarship to support her travel to Beijing, China to attend the University of Connecticut’s Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) study abroad program during summer 2015.

**CHINESE GOVERNMENT SCHOLARSHIP**

Elizabeth Fentress is an undergraduate student majoring in speech, language, and hearing and minoring in EALC and Journalism, who is studying Chinese at Nanjing University for the 2015-2016 academic year.

**CEAS FLAS RECIPIENTS**

Katie Conrad is an undergraduate student majoring in Anthropology, Global and International Studies and the EALC program. She was able to take fourth year Japanese at Columbia University’s Kyoto Consortium for Japanese Studies. Japanese language skills will be essential to conducting anthropological field research in Japan. She is from Lawrence, Kansas.

Akira Cowden is an undergraduate student majoring in EALC and GIS. She is studying fourth year Korean at KU. After graduation, she hopes to find a job in a North Korean refugee aid organization. She is from Lawrence, Kansas.

Elle Gerleman is an undergraduate student majoring in EALC. She is taking second year Chinese at KU. She hopes to work for the federal government, or at an international adoption agency. She is from Lawrence, Kansas.

Vann Hassell is an undergraduate student majoring in EALC. He is taking second year Korean at KU. After graduation, he hopes to work with international Deaf communities. He is from Tyler, Texas.

William Hill is a graduate student in EALC. He took second year Chinese at the Mandarin Training Center of National Taiwan Normal University, and is currently taking third year Chinese at KU, which will help him as he continues to work on his thesis. He is from Overland Park, Kansas.

**SCHOLARSHIP NEWS**

We are pleased to announce that the Jill Kleinberg Scholarship has been extended to 2025! This scholarship provides $1,000 to an undergraduate for study or an internship in East Asia, with priority given to students pursuing double degrees in East Asian Studies and Business or taking courses in both areas. We would like to thank Jill Kleinberg, Associate Professor Emerita, School of Business, for her generous support of this program.
ALUMNI PERSPECTIVE: SOOA IM MCCORMICK, ART CURATOR

Sooa Im McCormick graduated from the University of Kansas with a Ph.D. in Asian Art in 2014. She now works as Assistant Curator of Asian Art at the Cleveland Museum of Art in Cleveland, Ohio. Here’s a little more about her time at KU and her current job.

What years were you at KU as a Ph.D. student? I started the program in 2005 and finished it in 2014. I spent almost a decade in Lawrence, so perhaps that explains why I think of it as my second home, and miss it very much.

What drew you to the study of East Asian art history? When I first studied art history, I was very interested in European Baroque art because my bachelor’s degree in Korea was in Spanish and Latin American Literature and Language. When I began my master’s degree in art history at Rutgers, I started to become very interested in topics of artistic interactions between East Asia and Europe. In order to pursue this topic, I decided to study East Asian art history.

Can you describe your job as Assistant Curator at the Cleveland Museum of Art? I am in charge of rotation, presentation, and interpretation of our museum’s Korean art collection. Also, I have some curatorial and educational responsibilities related to the Chinese art collection. I made my first acquisition last December and plan to make another one soon. What I like most about my job is that I get to curate exhibitions and to shop for artwork for the museum!

What’s one good memory from your time at KU? There was an exhibition seminar offered by Dr. Haufler and Mr. Wilson, who was the Director of the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art at the time. Mr. Wilson thought it would be stimulating and interesting to divide students into two teams, and have them compete to see who could come up with the most interesting exhibition idea. I got to present our exhibition idea in front of the judges, and I still remember the moment when they chose our team. The title for the exhibition we curated was “Senses and Sensibilities.”

Do you have any advice for students considering a similar career? I would like to encourage such students to do various types of internships, not just curatorial internships, but also internships in other museum departments (such as development and advancement, or education). In this way, they will learn how museums operate from different angles, which is helpful because when working in museums, every project involves collaboration and collegiality.

As a side note: I heard that you met your husband at one of our Center’s social events. Is that true? Yes! Now we have a 4-year old daughter with a name meaning “Bright Will,” in Korean.

STUDENT PERSPECTIVE: AMANDA HILL, CEAS M.A. STUDENT

Name: Amanda Hill

Degree Program: Started the M.A. program in Contemporary East Asian Studies in Fall 2015.

Academic Background: Graduated from Emporia State University with a Bachelor of Social Sciences with a Minor in East Asian Studies and Chinese language.

Deciding Factor That Brought Her to KU: “I presented a paper at the SWCAS/MCAA conference held here in 2014 and met a lot of terrific KU faculty and graduate students. That really solidified my decision.”

Favorite Class So Far: “Social Protest in China,” taught by Yao Li in Fall 2015. “It was just so relevant to modern East Asia. She gave us lots of control of the discussion, and what we wanted to study within that topic. I focused on air quality in China and how the related protests are affected by fear of government censorship.”

Language Learning Efforts: “I’m taking Chinese right now. I speak well, but need to focus on the writing. Anytime I write a status update on social media, I’m forcing myself to rewrite it in Chinese characters.

Plans After Graduation: “I want to get my Ph.D., possibly focusing on ethnic and gender studies, or on environmental issues within China. In one recent class, I merged the two of those topics and looked at health issues for migrant female workers in Chinese factories. After I get my Ph.D. I would love to be a professor in Asian Humanities focusing on China.”

Most Unusual Experience in China: Teaching dance classes. “I studied in China the summer of 2013. I taught and studied in Guangdong province at South China Normal University, and I taught both English courses and hip hop dancing. Some of my English students also ended up enrolling in my dance course! It was a lot of fun.”
Community Engagement

By Randi Hacker
CEAS Outreach Director

Outreach continues apace. From the Girl Scouts to the Boy Scouts, from Pembroke Hill private school to Douglas County Juvenile Detention Center from classrooms to after-school programs, the Center and its partners brought East Asian culture and language to more than 1,000 K-16 students across Kansas and western Missouri through its time-honored and successful presentations and events. And these were all fine and good and, occasionally, even inspiring but, the really big event, the real game changer of this year was the inaugural East Asia LitFest.

Aimed at middle school students, the event’s major focus was to raise awareness of books about East Asia. To that end, we bused 6th, 7th and 8th graders in from the four middle schools in Lawrence. Our keynote speaker was Linda Sue Park, Newbery Award-winning author of *A Single Shard*, a novel about medieval Korea. Linda spoke engagingly and articulately about her childhood as a member of the only Korean family in her hometown. Her honest discussion of her feelings of marginalization and otherness and how they informed and continue to inform her writing were received with rapt attention by the students.

Two other authors shared the limelight: Lois Ruby whose novel, *Shanghai Shadows*, tells the story of a Jewish girl in the Shanghai Ghetto. The Shanghai Ghetto is a little-known chapter in World War II history. In the late 1930s, as Jews began fleeing Nazi Germany in larger numbers, they were unable to find sanctuary as many countries had established quotas and those quotas had been met. In a surprise move, the Japanese, who were occupying Shanghai at the time, opened up the port to these refugees, no visa necessary. Close to 100,000 Jewish immigrants called this place home for the duration of the war and longer.

Christine Liu-Perkins brought a non-fiction perspective to the panel. Her book *At Home in Her Tomb* is about Lady Dai whose 2000-year-old mummy discovered in her tomb at Mawangdui was so perfectly preserved that archaeologists even found the melon seeds that had made up her last meal in her stomach.

After the speeches, students had the opportunity to participate in workshops led by the authors. Eleven-to-thirteen year olds are a tough crowd and, though we solicited questions from them beforehand, none came in. So, I generated a list of fallback questions so that the panel would not have to sit in an awkward silence during the Q&A. I am happy to report that I did not have to resort to my list at all. There were more questions than we even had time for and this, in my opinion, is the true measure of success at an event that brings together members of this age group.

Our radio program, Postcards from Asia has undergone a sea change: It has morphed into Postcards from Abroad. After 10 years of reporting all that was quirky and curious about East Asia, we decided that it was time to branch out. Accordingly, we invited the other international centers to join the show. Postcards from Abroad now brings you quirky and curious glimpses of cultures around the world including Latin America, India, Russia and Africa. Tune in, same time, same place: Wednesday evenings at 8:58 PM and Saturdays at 1:04 PM on KANU.

Thanks to the Japan Foundation,
the Center had the opportunity to show four contemporary Japanese documentaries: *Hafu*, about the biracial population in Japan; *Lonely Swallows*, about Brazilians living in Tokyo; *Campaign* which followed the election of an unknown in Kawasaki and *Children of the Woods* about a preschool with a rather radical philosophy. We partnered with the Lawrence Public Library and screened them over the course of a weekend in the library’s auditorium. Patrick Terry, a KU graduate student who teaches courses in the Department of Film and Media Studies, provided pre-screening background information and gave the audience members a question to contemplate while watching each film. The subject matter, the venue and the schedule all combined to make this our most successful film festival since the Godzilla Event in 2004.

In 2015, the Lawrence Public Library launched its seed library. This service allows library patrons to “check out” seeds to plant in their gardens with the eventual outcome being that they allow at least one of their plants to go to seed and return these to the library. The Center was proud to be a part of this by donating money that was used to provide the library seed collection with a variety of seeds for Asian plants.

Last year, we established an East Asian section in the Merc’s garden at Lawrence’s West Middle School. This year, CEAS Assistant Director, Ayako Mizumura, visited the garden and spoke to the students about *shiso*, a Japanese plant used in a variety of ways. She taught them how to make *shiso* juice which they all tasted and which they all loved. According to at least one student, the presentation was “cool.” In addition to this, CEAS and the other centers contributed seeds to Central Middle School which has established a world garden within their market garden.

Now, for a few numbers:

- Number of *hachimaki* (Japanese headbands) made: 130
- Number of students who learned to count to 10 in Chinese: 810
- Number of teachers who receive Outreach Notes: More than 1000
- Number of people of all ages who learned to make Asian food through Center cooking classes: 42
- Number of middle school gardens in Lawrence growing East Asian vegetables: 2
- Number of Girl Scouts in Kansas and Missouri who learned about China: 327
- Number of students, teachers and members of the general public who heard taiko drumming: 214
- Number of KU students who learned some chopstick etiquette: 411
- Number of students who learned some Korean games: 55

And that wraps up this year!
Here are some of the main events sponsored by CEAS in 2015, including lectures, film showings, holiday celebrations and other cultural activities and gatherings.

**EAST ASIA LECTURES 2015**

**Feb. 5 | Tea and Talk**

**Feb. 12 | Tea and Talk**
“Research Travel to Buddhist Sites in North Korea — Human and Religious Encounters”
Maya Stiller, Assistant Professor, Art History

**Feb. 17 | Chinese History Lecture**
“Matteo Ricci and the Muslims of China During the Late 16th Century: Between War and Dialogue”
Zvi Ben-Dor Benite, Professor of History, Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies, New York University

**March 5 | Tea and Talk**
“What’s New in Tang-dynasty Art?” Amy McNair, Professor, History of Art

**April 2 | Wallace S. Johnson Memorial Lecture**
“Bones, Babies, and the Politics of Burial in Late Imperial China”
Jeff Snyder-Reinke, Associate Professor, History, The College of Idaho

**April 16 | Tea and Talk**
So-Min Cheong, Associate Professor, Geography and Atmospheric Science

**April 22 | Grant K. Goodman Distinguished Lecture in Japanese Studies**
“Remembering World War II, 70 Years Later,” Carol Gluck, Professor of History, Columbia University

Members of the Kansas City Chinese Music Ensemble perform at the 2015 Mid-Autumn Festival Moon Viewing Party.

**Sept. 22 | Tea and Talk**
“Treasonous Patriots: War Mobilization, Discourse of ‘Japan and Korea As One,’ and Problem of Identity for the Colonized Koreans, 1937-1945”
Kyu Hyun Kim, Associate Professor of Modern Japanese History, UC Davis

**Sept. 27 | Moon Viewing Party**
This annual event to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival was co-sponsored by the KU Confucius Institute and the KU Center for East Asian Studies and held outside the Dole Institute of Politics.

**Oct. 5 | China Town Hall**
Panel Discussion with Secretary Robert Rubin, Mayor Sheldon Day and Mr. Daniel Rosen (via webcast) “Chinese Investment in the United States.”
On-site speaker, China analyst, Jason Rockett. Sponored by The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations and hosted by KU CEAS.

**Oct. 15 | Tea and Talk**
“Protests and Stability: How Social Protests Can Strengthen the Chinese State”
Yao Li, CEAS Lecturer

**Nov. 5 | Tea and Talk**
“Wartime Religion: Christianity and the Korean War,” Sean Kim, Professor of History, University of Central Missouri

**Nov. 19 | Tea and Talk**
“Narrating Salvation in Japan with Images of Kannon and Assorted Creepy Creatures,” Sherry Fowler, Associate Professor, Art History

**Dec. 1 | Tea and Talk**
“More Monies, More Problems: Making Sense of Currencies and Commodities in Qing Mongolia,” Devon Dear, Assistant Professor, Chinese History

**OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS**

**Feb. 20 | Lunar New Year Party**
We had East Asian food tastings, activities and more at this community celebration.

**March 10 | Lawrence JapanFest**
Held at the Lawrence Art Center, this event featured presentations on Japanese popular culture by visiting students from Shizuoka University.

**Sept. 27 | Moon Viewing Party**
This annual event to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival was co-sponsored by the KU Confucius Institute and the KU Center for East Asian Studies and held outside the Dole Institute of Politics.

**Nov. 7-8 | Japan Foundation Film Festival**
This series of Japanese documentaries screened at the Lawrence Public Library explored a range of contemporary issues. Sponsored by the Japan Foundation, the KU Center for East Asian Studies, and the Lawrence Public Library. Films shown included *Campaign, Children of the Woods, Hafu,* and *Lonely Swallows.*

**Stay up-to-date on our current events!** Find our upcoming events listed online at ceas.ku.edu. You can also keep abreast by signing up to receive one of our email lists at ceas.ku.edu/email-lists.
2015 KU CONFUCIUS INSTITUTE HIGHLIGHTS

By Kevin Liu, Associate Director, CIKU

In 2015, the Confucius Institute of the University of Kansas partnered with other units of KU to offer China-related public programming and outreach to K-12 schools. The Institute worked with CEAS to deliver workshops for teachers, provide travel funding for faculty and graduate students, offer scholarships, and host a Chinese language speech contest. The Institute also worked with other units of KU to take a group of faculty from the Schools of Education and Music to China to explore collaborative projects there with partner institutions.

The Institute continued to raise awareness of Chinese language and culture in the Kansas City area by partnering with heritage associations and other local organizations to host or contribute to programming such as the Chinese New Year/Spring Festival culture fair and evening gala at Johnson County Community College, outdoor calligraphy at the annual KU Football Kickoff Event in Johnson County, and other events.

Facilitating access to Chinese language learning for audiences outside of the university continues to be a goal of the Institute. In 2015, the Institute again offered corporate training and non-credit classes for local community members and continued to develop and test distance learning techniques, primarily by offering video-conferenced distance learning Chinese language classes for K-12 schools. The Institute has initiated a shift from specialized videoconferencing equipment to cloud-based solutions which allow for greater flexibility and freedom of access. During the summer of 2015, the Institute focused on improving its high school curriculum for all four levels, with the goals of better articulation with college curriculum and with providing more effective curriculum and teacher training to visiting teachers from China. The fall of 2015 included a continuation of elementary school Chinese and increased enrollment in fourth level high school Chinese. In addition, CIKU now boasts the largest class sizes in first level high school Chinese, and an expanded program of middle school exploratory Chinese classes.

KCTA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

By Nancy Hope, Associate Director, KCTA

The Kansas Consortium for Teaching about Asia or KCTA undertook several projects in 2015. Its "East Asia History and Culture for Teachers" class was held in the Lawrence, Kansas, school district for twenty-one elementary/secondary educators in the spring. This class funded by the Freeman Foundation helps teachers increase East Asian content across the curriculum by introducing them to the geography, history, literature, language and art of China, Korea and Japan. In October, KCTA in partnership with CEAS conducted a teachers' workshop on "Samurai in War and Peace" at the Greater Kansas City Japan Festival for twenty-eight educators and their students.

KCTA also empowers educators through its "KCTA E-news." In 2015, twenty-two issues reached a total of 13,200 educators. The information was, in turn, reposted by the National Consortium for Teaching about Asia thus reaching an even wider audience. With funding from the Freeman and Japan Foundations, Nancy Hope, KCTA Associate Director, co-led a nineteen-day study tour for K-12 educators to China and Japan in July. In addition to seeing Tiananmen Square and Nara's Great Buddha, the twenty participants were able to compare Yasukuni Shrine in Tokyo with the People's Anti-Japanese War Museum near Beijing. They toured a part of northern Japan affected by the 2011 earthquake and tsunami, an incredibly moving experience.

KCTA organized the visit of twenty-three college students and faculty from Shizuoka University in Japan to KU and Lawrence in March as part of its Japan Foundation-funded Kakehashi Project: Bridge for Tomorrow exchange program. The highlight of the visit, which included interacting with Kansas college students who had traveled to Shizuoka the previous summer, was having both groups join in taiko drumming during a JapanFest at the Lawrence Art Center in March.

March also saw KCTA organizing a conference/workshop on adding global competence to teacher education for fifty faculty and staff from fifteen colleges and universities across Kansas. Attendees heard about the economization of education, resources at KU's Area Study Centers and ways to increase global content in the teacher preparation curriculum. This project and a planned follow-up in spring 2016 were made possible by a generous grant from the Longview Foundation.
Every now and then, we at CEAS find ways to combine truly diverse interests. KU basketball fans will be interested to learn that we had just this sort of opportunity in the Summer of 2015, when we developed an on-campus plus experiential learning abroad course on Korean culture and society for members of the KU men's basketball team. The idea for the course came from Paul Buskirk, Associate Athletic Director, who was seeking a solution to a scheduling conundrum. Team members needed to be able to do coursework on campus during the summer, but they also needed to be out of the country for a 3-week period in the middle of the summer session in order to play as Team USA in the World University Games that were being held in Gwangju, South Korea. Paul's solution? Turn the Korea trip into an experiential learning opportunity that would reinforce and expand upon classroom instruction on Korean culture and society. Paul worked with CEAS, the Office of Study Abroad, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Provost's Office to lay the groundwork for what turned out to be an innovative and rewarding experiential learning course.

With advice and assistance from Kyoim Yun and Megan Greene, Zach Adamz, a graduate student in Geography specializing in Korean studies, developed and taught an Introduction to Korea course in which team members spent 2 hours a day for three weeks in class learning about various dimensions of Korean culture, society, history, politics, and economy before travelling to Korea. Although the students were in Korea primarily to play basketball, they did have time to explore and learn more about their surroundings. To help them figure out what to do, Zach compiled a list of potential site visits and a set of guiding questions for each site to encourage them to think about how their observations at those sites and their experiences in Korea connected to the academic material they had encountered in the classroom before their departure. While in Korea, the students kept journals in which they described and reflected upon their experiences and observations, and after their return, each student made a presentation on some topic or theme that he had identified as interesting while in Korea.

Not only did the class introduce students to Korea’s history and culture, it also helped them to better understand the environment in which they were practicing and playing basketball. As one student, Devonte’ Graham, said of the class “The Korean culture class we attended prior to going to South Korea was extremely educational. We as a team actually believed that it truly gave us an advantage once we were over there. We had a good idea what to expect culturally, which in turn kept us relaxed throughout our trip. It was an amazing experience being there and meeting so many wonderful people.”

From the CEAS perspective, this course offered us a wonderful opportunity to reach students athletes who don’t often take courses on East Asia and who almost never get the opportunity to study abroad, and to provide them with the context and background to enable them to take greater advantage of the opportunity they had to travel and play ball in another country. It was clear to those of us who attended the classes in which they made their final presentations that quite a few of the students had gotten a lot out of the experience they had in South Korea, and not simply because they brought home the gold medal. They gave wonderful presentations on topics such as transportation, food, business conglomerates, friendliness, and religion. We sincerely hope that more KU athletic teams have this sort of opportunity in the future, and CEAS will always be happy to work with them to develop similar courses if their destinations happen to be in East Asia!
EAST ASIAN PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

This year we held our second annual CEAS photo contest, and we received many wonderful photos from students, faculty and people in the Lawrence community. Here are the six finalists from our contest. Thanks to all who participated!

Carrying the Bride, Anyue, Sichuan  
By Yeqiang Wang

Stone Forest, Yunnan Province, By Xizhi Jiang

Animals in a Mountain Pasture, By Amanda Snider

Kinkakuji, the Golden Pavilion, in Kyoto, By Roberta Park

Sakura in Bloom in Tokyo, Japan, By Carole Owsley

Mount Emei, in Sichuan Province, China, McKale Wiley
YOUR GIFTS HELP SUPPORT OUR WORK

We appreciate your continued interest and participation in our programming. Your support helps us to remain a valuable regional resource for learning about East Asian languages and cultures, including for K-12 students and teachers, college students and faculty, and for people of all ages among the wider community. Individual gifts of all sizes help us to pursue our work. The Center is funded by the University, foundations, the Department of Education, and other granting agencies, and we continue to actively pursue such support. However, contributions from individual donors remain essential. For those of you who are able to do so, we appreciate your financial assistance.

If you wish to make a gift to the Center for East Asian Studies, just visit www.ceas.ku.edu/donate. You can give to our general fund, or for a specific purpose, including supporting the East Asia Library Collections, student scholarships, or the Wallace Johnson and Grant Goodman annual lectures. You may also donate by check. Please send your donations, clearly marked “Center for East Asian Studies,” to:

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