Organized by Associate Professor John Kennedy (Political Science), the Center for East Asian Studies is hosting an international conference, “The Opening of Western China: Problems and Prospects,” April 17, 2009.

Eight speakers from the United States and China will explore three topics—ethnicity, environment, and economic development—in relation to western China and its expanding role in globalization.

Each speaker will present her or his topic in an open forum. Twenty minutes will be given to the speaker; time for discussion between panelists and audience members will follow.

The conference will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 17, at the Hall Center for the Humanities. The event is free and open to the public, and audience members are invited to attend as many of the sessions as they like. A detailed schedule will be available from the CEAS office the week prior to the conference. (Please contact Leslie vonHolten, 785-864-1457, lvonholt@ku.edu.)

“The Opening of Western China: Problems and Prospects” is co-sponsored by the Hall Center for the Humanities.

“Opening of Western China”
Topics and Invited Speakers

**Ethnicity**
Arienne Dwyer
Linguistics and Anthropology
University of Kansas

Emily Yeh
Geography
University of Colorado, Boulder

**Environment**
Xingong Li
Geography
University of Kansas

Jim Cook
History
Central Washington University

**Economic Development**
Shi Yaojiang
Northwest Socio-Economic Development Research Center
Northwest University, Xi’an, China

John Kennedy
Political Science
University of Kansas

Xie Yichuan
Institute for Geospatial Research and Education
GIS, Planning and Geography
East Michigan University

Bao Shuming
China Data Center
University of Michigan
EXPLORE A NEW LANGUAGE!

In addition to Japanese, Korean, and Chinese, KU offers Uyghur, Tibetan, and Mongolian, as well as a less intensive Chinese language course. All languages offered through the KU East Asian Languages & Cultures department have been targeted by the U.S. Department of Education as “less commonly taught languages,” and knowledge of these languages gives graduates an edge in both the public and private sectors.

EALC 231: Intermediate Uyghur Language I
Time TBA | Mahire Yakup
Uyghur is an important Central Asian Turkic language spoken by nine million people in China and is a geopolitically strategic language spoken in Xinjiang, China (Chinese Turkestan), which shares a border with Pakistan, Afghanistan, the Central Asian Turkic republics, Russia, and Mongolia.

EALC 198: Elementary Mongolian I
MWF 10:00-10:50 | Battsetseg Serj
Written with a Cyrillic alphabet, Mongolian is spoken by more than 6 million people. This course will emphasize conversation and discussion of the basic elements of grammar and provide an introduction to Mongolian culture.

EALC 231: Intermediate Tibetan Language II
M 1:45-3:45 | Champa Tenzin Lhunpo
Born in Tibet, Venerable Champa Lhunpo was forced to flee to India when communist Chinese invaded in 1959. He earned the Master of Sutra and Tantra in 1986 and traveled as part of the Dalai Lama’s personal entourage for many years. He has taught Tibetan language at various schools and centers in the United States.

CHIN 100: Elementary Conversational Chinese I
MWF 1:00-1:50 | Deborah Peterson
Designed for non-majors who just want the basics of conversational Chinese. This course uses a new audio-based approach that teaches the elements of the spoken language and prepares students for travel or business in China and Taiwan. (CHIN 100 does not fulfill the CLAS foreign language distribution requirement.)

NEW AND UPDATED FALL 2009 COURSES

ANTH 389: Anthropology of Gender: Female, Male, & Beyond
MW 11:00-12:15 | Akiko Takeyama
This course will explore how gender and sexuality are constructed, experienced, and performed in a variety of cultural settings across time and space. (25% East Asian content.)

EALC 231: Introduction to Contemporary China
Time TBA | Hui Xiao

EALC 318: Modern Chinese Literature in Translation
Time TBA | Hui Xiao

EALC 331: Studies in: The Tale of Genji (1.5 credits)
Time TBA | Margaret Childs
This course will look at the purported “first novel in the world,” exploring themes of love, marriage, mortality, beauty, grief, and time.

EALC 410: Asobi: Play in Japan
MW 3:00-4:15 | Elaine Gerbert
Examines the function and patterns of play found in Shinto, the court culture of the aristocrats, the values and practices of the medieval samurai, the popular culture of Edo townspeople, and the postmodern consumer society of Japan today. (No language prerequisite.)

FMS 385/785: Contemporary Japanese Film
T 6:30-10:00 pm | Michael Baskett

GEOP 399: Topics in Regional Geography: Korea
MW 3:00-4:15 | So-Min Cheong
This course examines contemporary Korean society, culture, and environment.

HIST/EALC 589: Japan Since 1945
T 7:00-9:50 pm | William Tsutsui
Surveys Japanese political, social, economic, and cultural history from the end of World War II to the present day. Special attention will be given to Japanese pop culture and its globalization, as well as environmental policy and perceptions of nature. (“Bi-campus course” via videoconferencing on both the Lawrence and Edwards campuses.)

HIST 801: Food in Japan
T 1-3:30 | Eric Rath
The course explores diet and culinary culture historically and in contemporary Japan and introduces students to different approaches to the study of food culture.

REL 404: Asian Religions and their Core Texts
MW 11:00-11:50 | Bill Lindsey
Students will read in translation a variety of religious texts (including the Puranas, Zhaung Zi, Record of Linji, and the Vimalakirti Sutra) that have been formative to the religious traditions of Asia.

REL/EALC 508: Religion in China
TR 11:00-12:15 | Dan Stevenson
Examines patterns of religious life in traditional China, from local religion of household and village to organized state-sanctioned traditions of religious Daoism, Confucianism, Buddhism, and “heretical” sectarian movements.
**SPRING 2009 CEAS EVENTS**

*All events are free and open to the public.*

**SPRING 2009 CEAS EVENTS**

**Tea & Talk: William C. Kirby, “Chinese and American Universities in the 21st Century”**

*Monday, March 23 | 4:30 pm*

*Kansas Room, Kansas Union*

Kirby is Professor of History and Business at Harvard University.

**Tea & Talk: “Global Partners for Local Organic Foods: Connecting the U.S. & Japan through Kansas & Saitama”**

*Tuesday, March 24 | 4 pm*

*Pine Room, Kansas Union*

Local members of the Global Partners for Local Organic Foods project will discuss the genesis of the partnership and projected outcomes.

**Conference: “The Opening of Western China: Problems and Prospects”**

*Friday, April 17 | 9 am to 4 pm*

*Hall Center for the Humanities*

This conference will bring together national and international experts on China to discuss the problems and prospects of social, political, and economic development in western China. (For more information, please see Page 1.)


*Friday, April 17 | 4:30 pm*

*Centennial Room, Kansas Union*

Bol (Charles H. Carswell Professor of East Asian Languages & Civilizations, and Director, Center for Geographic Analysis, Harvard University) will deliver the inaugural lecture in honor of the late KU East Asian Languages & Cultures Professor Wallace Johnson.

**Tea & Talk: Yan Li (East Asian Languages & Cultures), “Can English-speaking L2 Chinese Learners say ‘no’ in Chinese?”**

*Thursday, April 23 | 4 pm*

*Pine Room, Kansas Union*

Li will discuss her research on the acquisition of the two main negative markers “bu” and “meiyou” in Chinese by English-speaking Chinese learners. The linguistic description of these two negative markers, the experiment aiming to reveal the status of these two negative markers in L2 Chinese learners’ interlanguage, and the implications of this study to teaching will be addressed.

**Lecture: Yongey Mingyur Dorje Rinpoche, “Joyful Wisdom”**

*Friday, April 24 | 7 pm*

*Alderson Auditorium, Kansas Union*

Yongey Mingyur Dorje Rinpoche (Tergar Institute, Bodhgaya, India) is a venerated teacher and master of the Karma Kagyu lineage of Tibetan Buddhism. Born in Nepal in 1975, he was recognized as a reincarnated teacher (tulku) by both H.H. the 16th Karmapa and H.H. Dilgo Khyentse Rinpoche. He is the author of *The Joy of Living: Unlocking the Secret and Science of Happiness* and of the new book *Joyful Wisdom.*

**GRANT GOODMAN DISTINGUISHED LECTURE ON JAPANESE STUDIES**


*Monday, April 27 | 7:30 pm*

*Hall Center for the Humanities*

At first glance, everyday life in Japan during World War II calls to mind the American home front: there were the same rousing speeches by the country’s leaders and official spokesmen, the enthusiastic send-offs of servicemen, the mobilization of women for war work, the rationing of scarce commodities, the censorship of war news, and the solemn respect shown the war dead. But the wartime diaries and correspondence of ordinary Japanese reveal that their government exercised such extraordinary control over their lives that most had no choice but to comply with government directives, even when it meant extreme hardship or death. Yet many Japanese were critical of their government’s policies; some recognized the signs of defeat; and a few even defied official directives. Yamashita is the Henry E. Sheffield Professor of History, Pomona College.

Other events in development will focus on the 60th anniversary of the Chinese Communist revolution, lessons learned from the Asian financial crisis, and the calligraphy of visiting artist Wang Tiande. Look for calendar updates in the April issue of *NewsNotes.*

Receive bi-weekly updates with our e-letter! Contact Leslie vonHolten (lvonholt@ku.edu) to sign up. Our events are also posted on our web site, www.ceas.ku.edu.
BUSINESS SCHOOL DEVELOPS PARTNERSHIPS

The KU School of Business is expanding its relationships with two partner universities in China to include student exchange agreements, which will provide KU Business undergraduate and graduate students with more opportunities to study in China.

Like KU, Sun Yat-Sen University (SYSU) in Guangzhou is a comprehensive university, and the University of International Business and Economics (UIBE) in Beijing is a university specializing in international business, economics, law, and foreign languages.

Plans are being made to send three KU Business students to UIBE this fall. Exchange students from China have already arrived at KU. PhD students from UIBE are at KU working with Business professor Tailan Chi, and two undergraduate students are here from SYSU.

Students from KU will be able to attend the two Chinese universities next year and will be able to earn an additional degree if they study in China for two semesters.

“These universities offer excellent opportunities for our students to gain in-depth knowledge about this rapidly growing economic power in the world and to stay on track toward graduation because of the business courses offered in English,” said Chi.

Two Chinese faculty are also visiting KU this spring semester. They are supported by the Chinese government and are involved in research projects with KU Business faculty members Andrew Chen and Terry Zhao.

In May, a group of KU MBA students will travel to SYSU to get an inside look at Chinese business activity and to participate in an international business case competition.

The KU School of Business believes international experience is key to preparing students for leadership positions in the global marketplace. KU Business students take advantage of study abroad programs at rates well above the national average, and 70 percent of the KU Business faculty have conducted international research or taught abroad in the last 3 years.