Modernism Revisited:
The Taiwan Modernist Literary Movement in Historical Perspective

In the late 1950s and early 1960s, as Chinese literature in the Mainland was relegated to Maoist doctrines and socialist realist models, a remarkable literary revolution was under way in Nationalist Taiwan. At the gates of Taiwan University a group of literature students working under the renowned critic, C. T. Hsia, began a landmark journal, *Modern Literature*, which would go on to have a profound impact on the Taiwan—and later Chinese—literary scene. The journal not only introduced the work and theories of literary modernism from the West through translations of important writers such as Joyce and Kafka, but also served as a forum for young student editors to publish their own fiction and critical essays. Those students, including Kenneth Hsien-yung Pai, Leo Ou-fan Lee, Chen Ruoxi, Wang Wenxing, and Ouyang Zi, would later dominate the Chinese literary scene as leading writers and critics for the next half century.

On May 1–3, 2008 UCSB will host an international conference that will bring together several original members of the Taiwan Modernist Literary Movement as well as a selection of leading scholars and well-known writers to reflect on the legacy of the movement from both personal and critical perspectives. Through a series of public panels and discussions, this conference will offer a comprehensive overview of the movement’s development and evolution and trace the far-reaching impact it has had not only in Taiwan and Hong Kong, but also in mainland China since the 1980s, when these modernist writers’ works were first published there. The circulation of these writings from Taiwan had a profound impact upon the new brand of literary modernism that has since flourished in mainland China.
Greetings from the ever-so-fair climes of Santa Barbara. As chair, I am delighted to be writing for our first newsletter. Much has happened since the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies came into existence 16 years ago. In fact, much has changed in just the past three years, not the least of which has been the acceptance of our first class of Ph.D. students. There have been losses. Allan Grapard retired in spring 2006, bringing to three the number of retirements in a few short years. At the same time, we have been engaged in the complex process of rebuilding our faculty, and we were extremely fortunate to find and hire two outstanding young scholars. Ann-Elise Lewallen, a scholar of modern Japan cultural studies, received her Ph.D. in anthropology in 2006 from the University of Michigan. Focusing on the Ainu sub-culture of northern Japan, she will bring a generally understudied and new area of analysis (ethnic diversity, marginalization processes, interactions between humans and the environment), helping us to firmly situate Japan within the larger world—a step that needs to be made more forcefully. Xiaorong Li, a pre-modern Chinese literature scholar, received her M.A. in Chinese linguistics and Ph.D. in Chinese literature from McGill University in 2006, having received a B.A. in Chinese literature from Peking University. Her research is on women’s poetry in late imperial China. Trained in traditional approaches to texts and literary history in the Literature Department at Peking University, the finest literature department in China, Li comes with a depth of knowledge of pre-modern texts and a philological expertise that will prove invaluable to all our students.

The department has also been involved in a number of major events and conferences these past two years. The west coast performances of the Peony Pavilion, produced by our emeritus colleague, Kenneth Hsien-yung Pai was the highlight of fall 2006. The 80-member Suzhou Kunju opera troupe spent over a week in Santa Barbara, making themselves available to our students and opening rehearsals to our classes. The twenty hours of opera, sung entirely in Chinese, spanned three consecutive sold-out nights at the Lobero Theater. This was followed in March 2007 with the appearance of Yo-yo Ma’s Silk Road ensemble on campus and at the Arlington Theater. Again, the department worked closely with Arts and Lectures in offering a general class on the art, music, religion, and cultures of Asia, Sights and Sounds of the Silk Road, featuring numerous guest lecturers from across campus, around the country, and abroad. The quarter culminated with an intimate in-class appearance of the ensemble. The Center for Taiwan Studies, ran its fourth international conference, focusing on Taiwan in Global Perspectives. The Center’s ten years of publishing a journal on Taiwan studies, its regular hosting of Taiwan writers and scholars, and its organizing of conferences continues to affirm UCSB’s prominence in the area of Taiwan studies. We also held an international conference on
A new Ph.D. program in EALCS was officially initiated fall 2007, expanding upon our long-time M.A. degree. The new Ph.D., open to students in Chinese or Japanese studies, is an interdisciplinary program with an emphasis on the cultural studies and the humanistic traditions of East Asia.

Students focus on course work in three specializations, which include Modern East Asian Cultural Studies, Cinema and the Performing Arts, Buddhist Studies, Translation Studies, Taiwan Literature and Cultural Studies, Chinese-language Pedagogy and Linguistics, Literati Culture, and Early Modern Japanese Cultural Studies.

In addition, all students are required to take a group of four core graduate seminars designed to introduce them to key methodological and theoretic issues in the study of East Asia. These include a seminar on modern East Asian cultural studies; the theory and practice of translation; canon formation, periodization, and disciplinarity in East Asian studies; and bibliography and research methodology.

Students applying to the Ph.D. program should already be at an advanced level in Chinese or Japanese. Once admitted, students are expected to complete qualifying examinations in their three specializations at the end of their third year in the program, after which they move onto their dissertation research.

Fellowship support is available through campus-wide competitions for multi-year fellowship packages, through U.S. Department of Education Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) fellowships and Departmental Block Grant funds. Teaching Assistantships in language and non-language courses are also available. For further information, please visit the EALCS website (www.eastasian.ucsb.edu) or contact Ronald Egan, Graduate Advisor (roneagan@eastasian.ucsb.edu). Other faculty members can also be consulted.

Masculinities in Japan (see pg. 9). Finally, as this newsletter goes to press, we are preparing for a major conference on Chinese Literary Modernism, with many of its founding figures in attendance. This gathering of Chinese literary luminaries gives us the opportunity to celebrate the 70th birthday of Kenneth Hsien-yung Pai, one of the movement’s central figures. This, we are certain, will prove to be an exciting conclusion to the 2007–2008 academic year.

Bill Powell, Chair
Introducing our Graduate Students—

**Sarah Jane Babcock** received her B.A. in Chinese Language and Literature from UC Berkeley in 2003. After three years of teaching elementary Chinese at a Buddhist seminary college in northern California, Babcock entered the M.A. program in East Asian Studies at UCSB. She is now in her second year, and will complete her degree in summer 2008. Her thesis focus is the Song Dynasty poet, Su Shi, and his correspondence and friendship with the Buddhist monks, Canliao and Foyin. Babcock received the Foreign Language and Area Studies (FLAS) grant for both years of the M.A. program.

A second-year M.A. candidate, **Joshua P. Dyer** is working under Ronald Egan on Song Dynasty literature and aesthetics. His thesis will investigate the use of musical imagery in the song lyrics of Yan Jidao. He also is interested in the practice of literary translation and recently contributed an English translation of Chang Hua-t’ang’s “Bagusi’s Home-Coming Road” to the *Taiwan Literature: English Translation Series* (No. 21, July 2007).

**Ria Ludemann** is completing her fourth year in the 5-year B.A./M.A. program in Asian Studies. Her concentration is on Japan, with her primary interests in Japanese to English translation and Japanese modern popular culture. She also enjoys exploring literature, linguistics, art, and music, both Japanese and otherwise. Outside of class, she plays go, video games, and the flute.

**Matt Mewhinney** is a second-year M.A. candidate in EALCS. He is interested in Japanese colonial literature and its relationship to the post-Meiji Japanese literary canons, specifically narratives that fall into the *shi-shosetsu*, or I-novel genre. His interests extend to Japanese linguistics, the history of Chinese orthography, and language pedagogy. He spends his spare time with a knife and cutting board, training to become a sushi chef.

**Jennifer Muranaka**, a first-year M.A. candidate, graduated from UCLA in 2004 with a B.A. in American Literature and Culture and a minor in Japanese. Her interest in Japanese studies was further sparked by the year she spent working for the JET Programme from 2004–2005. In her return to academia, Muranaka plans to enhance her knowledge of the Japanese language and culture, and intends to utilize her degree by teaching the language at a community college or working at the Japanese consulate in Los Angeles.

**Christina Thrkel** is a first-year M.A. candidate, considering research on the role of Christianity as an influencing factor in modern Chinese ethics as a thesis project. She obtained her undergraduate degree from Principia College (Elsah, Illinois) in Religion and World Perspectives.

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**Farewells—continued**

Professor Haruko Iwasaki retired in fall 2005 after twelve years at UCSB. After many years of teaching at Princeton and Harvard Universities, she came to UCSB in 1993 with a Ph.D. from Harvard. At UCSB, Iwasaki taught courses in Japanese early modern and Meiji literature and advanced Japanese language. Students fortunate enough to study with her were guided through the complexities and beauties of classical, early modern, Meiji, and modern Japanese by her surpassing knowledge and carefully-considered method. There are few other professors who understand and present the range of linguistic texts that Iwasaki worked with and taught. As a rare expert in the marvelous, yet notoriously difficult Edo texts, she was sought out by both students and colleagues for help and guidance, and she always responded with generosity and a commitment to expanding the field of Edo studies.

Iwasaki’s vast knowledge and expertise of Edo Japan led her to two main areas of focus: humorous literature of mid-Edo, about which her seminal research on cultural networks has inspired the work of many contemporary Edo scholars, and a nuanced and original reading of the cultural context and significance of netsuke, in which she explicates their meaning against and among other forms of Edo popular culture. Taken together, Iwasaki’s highly-original work has illuminated Edo cultural values and social practice, while providing a foundation of knowledge and approach to the study of Edo literature and culture from which so many of us have benefited immeasurably.

Iwasaki also worked tirelessly on behalf of EALCS. She devoted much effort to the improvement of our Japanese language program, which is thriving today. She was personally responsible for bringing the Takashima funds to our department. These monies have given us both the Takashima Chair for Japanese Cultural Studies, currently
A second-year M.A. candidate from China, Lianting Tu is interested in translation of modern Japanese literature. Far from her native land, she is grateful for the nurturing environment the EALCS faculty provides, going well beyond academic mentoring.

Shiying Pang is a second-year M.A. candidate in EALCS. Although she is not a Buddhist, she is interested in objectively studying Chinese Buddhism with a specific focus on social practice of female Buddhist groups during the Tang Dynasty. Her interests also extend to Buddhist canons, traditional Chinese literati culture, and Chinese pedagogy. She enjoys teaching and studying languages and is looking forward to teaching Chinese after graduation.

Tenzin Sherab is Tibetan, born to refugee parents in India. He received his early education in a Tibetan refugee school founded by His Holiness, the Dalai Lama in Dharamsala, India. Later, he spent many years as a Tibetan monk studying Buddhist philosophy, cognitive science, and meditation. Wanting to experience an American university education, he recently moved to the U.S. He joined EALCS fall 2007, transferring from the Religious Studies Department, where he had completed an M.A. in spring 2007. His emphasis in the EALCS M.A. program is Tibetan Buddhist studies. He works primarily under Professors William Powell and José Cabezón. Beyond Tibetan Buddhism, Sherab’s research interest lies in the applied aspects of Buddhism in the socio-political and cultural arena. He is currently working on an M.A. thesis entitled, “The Discourse of Violence in Tibetan Buddhism,” which he plans to expand for his Ph.D. dissertation. Sherab is especially excited about the challenge of learning yet another new language—Chinese. But what he enjoys most about being in this department is the true Californian spirit—accessible and friendly faculty, staff, and fellow graduate students.

Haiping Wu is a second-year M.A. candidate in EALCS. Her academic interests are applied linguistics and language pedagogy. She is currently working on the iconicity of Chinese word order, and trying to apply the theory of iconicity to explaining linguistic phenomena. She also is interested in Chinese pre-modern and modern literature, and would like to explore the pedagogical potentials of literature works in teaching Chinese as a second language. She is a good swimmer and ping-pong player.

Jiayin Zhang is a first-year Ph.D. candidate in EALCS. She is interested in traditional Chinese literature and literati culture of the Tang and Song Dynasties, particularly poetry and literary criticism. Her interests extend to Chinese art history, teaching pedagogy, and Chinese linguistics. With a passion for students and teaching, she wants to teach Chinese literature, language, and culture at the university level.
**Welcoming—**

Dr. Akiyo Cantrell is welcomed as a new Japanese Language lecturer. She has a Ph.D. from the Linguistics Department at UCSB, and an M.A. in the Division of American Area Studies from Hiroshima University in Japan.

Peng Liu, a scholar and Ph.D. candidate from Fudan University, Department of Chinese Language and Literature is working on his dissertation on monk poets of the Mid-Tang and Late Tang Periods. He will be at UCSB until September 2009.

Yong-jin Park, Professor of Chinese Linguistics, Department of Chinese Language and Literature at Chonbuk National University, Jeonju-city, Jeollabuk-do, Korea will continue to be at UCSB until February 2008.

From September 2007 to September 2008, Jun Wang, a Ph.D. candidate at Nanjing University, will spend the year conducting research on modern Chinese autobiography (1949–1979).

**In Memoriam**

Atsuko Hayashi, a former EALCS Japanese Language Lecturer, died on June 18, 2007, in Long Beach, California. Born in Takasaki-shi, the Japanese native worked on campus from 1998–1999 and 2002–2005, before taking a tenure-track position at California State University, Long Beach, where she became an assistant professor. Hayashi was an innovative teacher, dedicated researcher, and prolific writer, admired by both her students and colleagues alike.

**New Hires**

in Modern Japanese Cultural Studies and Chinese Literature

Dr. Ann-Elise Lewallen, a recent Ph.D. in anthropology from the University of Michigan and currently postdoctoral fellow at Hokkaido University, will be joining EALCS on January 1, 2009. Lewallen received her Ph.D. in anthropology in 2006. Her dissertation was one of two nominations in anthropology for a Best Dissertation Award. Her dissertation project, “Hands that Never Rest: Ainu Women, Cultural Revival, and Indigenous Politics in Japan,” reveals her broad interests in the study of urban and rural Japan, gender studies, and issues of indigeneity, ethnicity, and multiculturalism. That she has been able to establish intimate access to Ainu communities that are notoriously unreceptive of researchers, foreign or Japanese, is testament to Lewallen’s extraordinary linguistic and sociocultural sensibilities. Lewallen is currently transforming this dissertation into a book that will arguably be a path-breaking contribution to our understanding of an emerging global discourse on indigeneity, or the politics of being indigenous, but with a gaze that meaningfully links this to and explores the experiences of relatively disempowered members of these indigenous communities. Lewallen is unique in her ability to cross conventional disciplinary and geographic boundaries. She will bring a generally understudied and new area of analysis (ethnic diversity, marginalization processes, interactions between humans and the environment) to EALCS, and will be an important addition to two Ph.D. emphases—modern Japanese cultural studies and language and cultural contact. She will complement our expertise in modern and contemporary sociocultural analyses in a manner that makes her a leader in current and future research currents in the field. Lewallen is planning to offer undergraduate and graduate courses that include the following themes: Japanese society and culture with an emphasis on human-environment relations; ethnic and social diversity in Japan; gender and sexuality in cross-cultural perspective; society, culture and continuity in Japan; global indigenous movements and indigeneity in Asia; and race, ethnicity and nationalism.

Our Department will also welcome Dr. Xiaorong Li in Fall 2008 as a new faculty member, specializing in late imperial period Chinese literature. Li received her Ph.D. in 2006 from...
McGill University in Montreal and is currently teaching at Swarthmore College in Pennsylvania. She has B.A. and M.A. degrees in Chinese literature and linguistics from Peking University. Li’s research focuses on gender issues in literary history and women’s writing of the Ming and Qing Periods. She will teach courses on Ming-Qing literature, women writers of imperial China, and gender issues in Chinese literary and cultural history, as well as Advanced Modern Chinese and Literary Chinese. Dr. Li was selected from a group of highly accomplished finalists in our job search this past Fall and Winter. EALCS is delighted that she has accepted our offer of appointment.
East Asia Center News—

The East Asia Center (EAC) at UCSB (currently directed by Sabine Frühstück) includes an unusually qualified group of scholars, graduate students, artists, writers, and other affiliates interested in East Asian cultures. EAC strives to bring this diverse group of people together more often and creates occasions for the exchange of ideas across disciplinary boundaries and across the academy and the wider community.

Recent EAC-sponsored events:

In response to Taiwanese nationalism and the curiosity that only forbidden archives can generate, histories of Japanese colonialism in Taiwan (1895–1945) have flourished since the lifting of martial law on the island in the 1980s. As participants and objects-of-inquiry in this scholarly renaissance, Taiwan’s Indigenous Peoples have been portrayed as the most unfortunate victims of Japanese aggression, as pristine avatars of Taiwanese cultural diversity, and as symbols of the island’s savage condition before Chinese immigration.

Through the eyes of an Aborigine-language interpreter known to history as “Kondo the Barbarian,” Paul D. Barclay traces a history of Japanese-Taiwan Aborigine relations. Kondô’s position in the colonial order of things suggests that the infamous Wushe rebellion of 1930 was the culmination of numerous bureaucratic bungles. From Kondo’s perspective, bloody massacre was both preventable and predictable. Taking the warnings of Japanese subalterns seriously, Barclay argues that the chasm between field-grade functionaries and leading officials exemplifies structurally conditioned miscommunication between policy-makers in national capitals and the “men-on-the-spot” at the peripheries of territorially ambitious states. Kondo’s story is thus a cautionary tale for the visionaries who believe the peoples of the world can be managed from a centrally located apex of power and knowledge.

Paul D. Barclay is author of numerous articles about Japanese imperial rule in Taiwan and is completing a book-length project on the Qing-Meiji transition in that colony. Professor Barclay is a recipient of a 2007–2008 National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship.

In 1992 lesbian activist Kakefuda Hiroko published a book entitled “What it means to be a ‘lesbian’”—a scathing attack on Japan’s heteronormative mainstream culture. Kakefuda claimed that the category “rezebian” had become so closely aligned with male pornographic fantasy that it was impossible for her to reclaim the term to express her own female agency.

Yet how and why did this male colonization of “lesbian” sexuality take place in Japanese popular culture? During the Edo period, scant attention was paid to women’s same-sex sexuality and Meiji and Taisho-period discourses tended to contrast the “spiritual” quality of women’s

East Asia Center News—

2007–2008 Visiting Fellows

Tom Gill is an anthropologist and professor in the Department of International Studies, Meiji Gakuin University, Yokohama, Japan. While at the EAC he is pursuing a project on homelessness in a number of cities in Japan, the United States, and Britain. Gill is the author of *Men of Uncertainty: The Social Organization of Day Laborers in Contemporary Japan* (The State University of New York Press, 2001), and editor (with J. S. Eades and Harumi Befu) of *Globalization and Social Change in Contemporary Japan* (Melbourne: Trans Pacific Books, 2000).

Emily Zeamer, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Social Anthropology and a Weatherhead Center Graduate Student Associate at Harvard University, is particularly interested in narrative and visual cultures, modernity, religion, gender and class, media publics, and consumption practices. While at the EAC she is completing her dissertation, “Considering the Sacred in Small Things: Formations of Buddhism in Modern Thailand.”
“same-sex love” (doseiai) with the supposedly more carnal interests of same-sex desiring men. The immediate postwar period saw a rapid increase in discourse about “ perverse desires” (hentai seiyoku) that likewise mainly focused on male agents. Indeed, the category “resubian” does not begin to appear until the late 1950s. However, there was some media interest in a range of perverse female characters—in particular the “sadistic woman,” the “male-dresser,” and the “Lesbos lover”—categories that expressed female agency at the expense of their male analogues, the “masochist man,” the “female-dresser,” and the “Sodomite.” Although there is clearly a prurient interest in women’s sexuality evident in these largely male-authored accounts, this presentation inquires whether it is also possible to read them as a recognition of increasing female agency in the context of the social reforms of the early postwar years.

Mark McLeod lectures in the sociology program at the University of Wollongong, Australia, and is the 2007–2008 Toyota Visiting Professor of Japanese at the University of Michigan. He is author of *Male Homosexuality in Modern Japan* (2000) and *Queer Japan from the Pacific War* (2005) and co-editor of *Genders, Transgenders and Sexualities in Japan* (2005) and *Queer Voices from Japan* (2007).

### Masculinities in Japan

The study of gender has greatly contributed to our knowledge of history and has challenged many preconceived notions of sociocultural phenomena and processes. The study of men and masculinity, however, has only recently begun in earnest, spearheaded in the United States by such works as R. W. Connell’s, *Masculinities* (1995) or in Germany by Thomas Kühne’s *Männergeschichte—Geschlechtergeschichte* (1996). In Japan such noteworthy volumes as *On Men* (Danseiron, ed. Yuko Nishikawa and Ogino Miho, 1999), *Where Did Japanese Men Come From? Where Are They Going?* (Nihon no otoko wa doko kara kite, doko e iku no ka, ed. Ito Satoru, Murase Yukihiro and Asai Haruo, 2001), *Men and Masculinities in Contemporary Japan: Dislocating the Salaryman Doxa* (ed. James Roberson and Nobue Suzuki, 2002), and some of the essays in *Gendering Modern Japanese History* (ed. Barbara Molony and Kathleen Uno, 2006) have paved the way for this still new direction in intellectual engagement.

Co-organized by Sabine Frühstück (University of California at Santa Barbara) and Anne Walthall (University of California at Irvine), Masculinities in Japan was held from January 31, 2007 through February 2, 2008, at the Upham Hotel, critically examining the struggle over, initiation into, and formation of masculinity in Japan from the seventeenth century until now.

A particularly apropos moment for such a workshop, sociologist

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In summer 2007, Rye Field published Guangying yayu, the Chinese edition of Speaking in Images: Interviews with Contemporary Chinese Filmmakers, featuring Professor Michael Berry’s interviews of twenty leading film directors from China, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. In winter 2008, Columbia University Press will publish The Song of Everlasting Sorrow, an epic novel by Wang Anyi, translated by Michael Berry and Susan Chan Egan. Generally regarded as one of the most important works of Chinese fiction of the second half of the twentieth century, this book marks a major contribution to the body of Chinese literature in English translation.


Lecturer Sunny Jung’s translation of Ko Un’s Abiding Places, Korea South and North (together with Hillel Schwartz, published by Tupello Press) was selected by the Austin Poetry Book Prize to be one of the top four poetry books to be published in English during the 2006–2007 academic year. The first civilian to be invited to North Korea (by his former political cellmate, Kim Dae-Jung), Ko Un’s poetry was inspired by his travels throughout the Korean peninsula. In Abiding Places, Ko Un transfigured his homeland in lovely, observant, and penetrating poems uniting ancient and modern, secular and spiritual, art and politics—South and North.

Continued from page 9—Masculinities

Ito Kimio recently claimed “Japanese masculinity is in crisis.” He suggested that the present is the beginning of an era marked by a series of distinct “men’s problems:” The inability to marry despite a desire to do so, the rising divorce rate among middle-aged and older men, and a number of role strain phenomena due to the perception that conventional roles no longer reap the customary rewards with respect to individual fulfillment, material gain, or social respect, while no new roles have yet materialized. This sense of crisis also seeps from former Prime Minister Hashimoto Ryutaro’s critique of Japanese men as incapable of caring for their families because they did not undergo military training. It is constantly reinforced by the self-doubt expressed by some of Japan’s most prominent men, ranging from pop art icon Murakami Takashi, who proposes that Japanese men have never overcome the childlike condition attributed to them by allied occupation Commander General MacArthur to rightwing demagogue and Tokyo Mayor Ishihara Shintaro, who is eager to turn Japan’s Self-Defense Forces into a full-blown military and thus restore a “normal state” with “real men” in charge.

The workshop was interdisciplinary in nature, including anthropological, sociological, and historical perspectives, consciously avoiding the conventional tropes of seemingly hegemonic masculinity that have been dealt with in earlier scholarship such as the samurai, the male Kabuki actor who enacts female personae, and the white-collar worker. Instead, the workshop sought to move beyond stereotypes to identify, analyze, and theorize about some of the key modes of masculinity within their respective historical settings. Participants were encouraged to address the theme of masculinity within the context of larger epistemological issues and to direct their discussions to the identification of modes of masculinity underwritten and under-theorized in Japanese studies, ranging from townsmen and artisans of the seventeenth century to the gender of robots in the twenty-first century. The workshop explored sites where formations of masculinity are formulated, contested, and renegotiated in a dialectic response to historical transformations, including the impact of new technologies, knowledge and normativizing institutions.
Center for Taiwan Studies—

Ongoing Promotion of Taiwan Studies at UCSB

The Center for Taiwan Studies (CTS), made possible by the Lai Ho and Wu Cho-liu Endowed Chair in Taiwan Studies in 2003, has been at the forefront nationwide in the promotion of Taiwan studies. Regularly sponsoring the publication of translations of Taiwan literature, visiting writers, international conferences, cultural events, and academic lectures on the UCSB campus, the CTS activities during 2007 include:

- Co-sponsorship of a lecture by David R. Ambaras (North Carolina State University) entitled “‘Sudden Masses’ and ‘Social Losers’: Everyday Tensions and Settler Anxieties in Colonial Taiwan”

- Co-sponsorship of a three-week visit to Taiwan for twelve students to experience an intensive language program at the Mandarin Training Center in Taipei and a guided tour to favorite Taiwanese tourist spots

- Co-sponsorship of video screenings—Taipei’s Bohemians and The Rhythm in Wulu Village—two documentaries giving the viewer a glimpse into the subcultures of Taiwan

- Co-sponsorship of a November talk by Paul D. Barclay, in which he traces a history of Japanese-Taiwan aborigine relations;

- Hosting an international conference entitled “Taiwan Studies in Global Perspectives,” with 29 scholars from Japan, Taiwan, Australia, Great Britain, France, Canada, and the United States participating

- A three-year agreement between the Cultural Division, Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Los Angeles (TECOLA), and the UC Regents, providing for ongoing support of the CTS, and funding programs of Graduate Fellowships and Support, Taiwan Studies Undergraduate Awards, Taiwan Studies Visiting Lectureships, and Postdoctoral Research Fellowships

- Publication of the Proceedings of the 2006 UCSB Conference in Taiwan Studies—Taiwan Literature and History, Taiwan Literature: English Translation Series, Volumes 20 and 21, both developing the theme of nostalgia

Center for Taiwan Studies—

Taiwan Scholarship Winners

- Kristin Addis
- Nathaniel Bayer
- David Madrid
- Bernet Reed

Taiwan Literature Award

For praiseworthy effort and outstanding performance in studying Chinese and Taiwan literature:
- David Madrid

Recent Publications—

Edited by Professors Kuo Ch’ing Tu and Robert Backus, the Center for Taiwan Studies’ journal, Taiwan Literature: English Translation Series, Issue 21, became available in July 2007, publishing stories, poetry, essays, and studies on the theme of nostalgia and longing for the homeland. A second issue on nostalgia, focusing on narratives of longing for times gone by, was published in January 2008.

In Transpacific Imaginations: History, Literature, Counterpoetics, by Yunte Huang, professor of English and affiliate professor of EALCS, explores how American literature is enmeshed with the literatures of Asia. The book begins with Western encounters with the Pacific: Yunte Huang reads Moby Dick as a Pacific work, looks at Henry Adams’s not talking about his travels in Japan and the Pacific basin in his autobiography, and compares Mark Twain to Liang Qichao. Huang then turns to Asian American encounters with the Pacific, concentrating on the “Angel Island” poems and on works by Theresa Hak Kyung Cha, Lawson Fusao Inada, and Araki Yasusada.

Huang’s argument that the Pacific forms American literature more than is generally acknowledged is a major contribution to our understanding of literary history. The book is in dialogue with cross-cultural studies of the Pacific and with contemporary innovative poetics. Huang has found a vehicle to join Asians and Westerners at the deepest level, and that vehicle is poetry. Poets can best imagine an ethical ground upon which different people join hands. Huang asks us to contribute to this effort by understanding the poets and writers already in the process of linking diverse peoples.

When I can find the time, one of the most rewarding things for me to do is to visit historical sites in China that connect, in one way or another, with my interests and current research projects. I was lucky to be able to do so for three weeks in fall 2007. After completing stop-overs for more conventional academic activities in Hong Kong and Guangzhou, I flew to the boom town of Yiwu in mid Zhejiang Province, and from there to Jinhua, which is located about two hours by train southwest of Hangzhou. Nowadays, if people have heard of Jinhua, it is probably for the delicious “Jinhua Hams” that are the city’s modern claim to fame. Although local marketing companies want us to believe that Jinhua Hams have been satisfying hungry consumers for over a thousand years, my own interest in Jinhua was not limited to the culinary (although it did not exclude the culinary either). During the period of cultural history that I study, the Song Dynasty, Jinhua was a cultural center and home to a distinguished group of scholars, philosophers, statesmen, and poets. Li Qingzhao (1084–1150s), China’s most celebrated woman poet, lived for the last twenty-five years of her life in Jinhua. Local residents—justifiably proud of her choice of their city as her final home—have established a Li Qingzhao Memorial Hall in honor of her. I traveled to Jinhua to see that memorial hall.

Li Qingzhao’s decision to remove herself to Jinhua is itself of some interest. Her decision followed soon after the dissolution of what for her was a disastrous second marriage (after she had been widowed by her first husband). This second marriage lasted all of one hundred days, and ended when Li Qingzhao brought suit against her new husband for malfeasance in office. So humiliated was she by the whole experience of having remarried only to divorce the man soon thereafter that, as she declared in a letter to a friend, she could no longer bear to be seen in the high society of the capital of Hangzhou (where the remarriage took place) and needed to hide herself away. Jinhua was the haven to which she escaped in the 1130s.

The Li Qingzhao Memorial Hall in Jinhua is attached to Bayong Tower, an ancient structure that is situated at the remnants of the ancient city wall, overlooking the river that flows through the modern city. Owing to its commanding view of the sur-
rounding landscape, Bayong Tower was a favorite site that was visited by travelers and notables through the centuries. Literary persons invariably took the opportunity to write a poem on the occasion of visiting the tower. But the poem that has become the signature piece about this tower, describing the view it provides and the troubled era in which she visited it, is a short poem that Li Qingzhao wrote when she ascended the tower. Her quatrain has eclipsed the dozens of others that were written there by eminent officials and scholars.

Also of interest in the memorial hall itself is that this is the only one of four memorial halls or museums in the P.R.C. devoted to Li Qingzhao that so much as mentions her second and disastrous marriage. In the other memorial halls (all of them in her native Shandong), the awkward fact that Li Qingzhao remarried at all is completely omitted from detailed chronological accounts of her life that are put on display.

Jinhua has another historical site of considerable interest, completely unrelated to Li Qingzhao. It is the palace of Li Shixian, who was commander of the Taiping Rebellion armies in Zhejiang. The palace is known as the Residence of the Attendant King, after Li’s rebel title. Built in 1861, the palace is the largest and best preserved Taiping Rebellion structure in all of China. It consists of multiple meeting halls, courtyards, and residences. One stone-floored plaza, used to assemble and drill the rebel army, is said to have been large enough to accommodate one hundred thousand soldiers. The attendant king himself clearly had imperial aspirations, as he filled his palace with stone dragon carvings. The palace buildings are famous for the large mural paintings that decorate the walls. Many of the murals, still in good condition, contain rebus images intended to bring divine blessings to the rebel cause. One battlefield banner on display is less subtle. Written in large, crude characters, the rhyming motto declares: “The long hairs (i.e., rebels) kill the demons, kill and kill some more.” Viewing the banner one can readily imagine how terrifying the Taiping hordes must have been to the imperial Qing Dynasty officials (the “demons”) who were unlucky enough to encounter them.

Ronald Egan
Professor of Chinese Literature and Aesthetics
Focus on

Japanese Language Program

Our Japanese language program has been rapidly expanding in the past two years. We currently have five lecturers and a total of 213 students enrolled in the language courses in Winter 2008. Japan 2 has six sections team-taught by lecturers Hiroko Sugawara, Chikako Shinagawa, Tomomi Sakuragi, and Akiyo Cantrell. Japan 5 has four sections, taught by Chikako Shinagawa and Koji Furukawa. Japan 120B also has two sections, taught by Koji Furukawa and Tomomi Sakuragi. Japan 130B has eighteen students and is taught by Hiroko Sugawara.

During summer 2007 we organized two gatherings for students who previously took Japanese courses. Our new lecturer, Akiyo Cantrell, took the lead to bring together about twenty students from different levels of Japanese to practice Japanese during the summer. This not only provided students with the opportunity to practice their language skills and share their summer activities, but to enjoy a Japanese movie together as well. Japanese high school students taking summer English courses in the ESL program at UCSB were invited to the second gathering, giving the entire group the opportunity to share languages and cultural experiences, as well as to make new friends.

Four lecturers attended a workshop of the Teachers of Japanese in Southern California (TJSC) in November 2007. The topic of the workshop was “How to Teach Culture.” This is an invaluable opportunity to learn how colleagues at other universities are incorporating cultural aspects in their Japanese classes and how we can use Japanese pop culture, such as animation and television dramas, to teach culture in class. In addition to the TJSC workshop, the regional workshop of the California Association of Japanese Language Teachers on December 9, 2007 was an opportunity to exchange ideas on how to improve students’ listening proficiency and comprehension.

Alumna Zhang Yu, currently a first-year Ph.D. student in Asian Languages at Stanford with a primary field in modern Chinese literature, intellectual and cultural history, writes about her experiences at EALCS: “Santa Barbara is the most enchanting place in the world. I feel so thankful for destiny bringing me to UCSB. Those were my beginning days in academic research as well as in a foreign country; I am deeply grateful to my professors who were always supportive and encouraging. My advisor, Professor Ronald Egan, showed me some of the most exquisite aspects of my own cultural tradition and guided me to re-examine it from the perspective of American sinology. His supervision sowed the seeds for my current work. There are many beautiful moments and fond memories about life in Santa Barbara, which I recall again and again—the illuminating seminars, the lunches with my close friends on the campus beach, the memorable parties with my professors and my intelligent and amusing classmates. I miss them all.”

Alumna Fangqiong Zhan writes: “During my two years in the Department of East Asian Languages and Cultural Studies at UCSB, I was able to study with Professor Sharon Yu, who specializes in historical Chinese linguistics and language pedagogy. I also worked with other professors in the department, particularly those specializing in literary Chinese, early modern Chinese literature, and translation theory and practice. I was exposed to diverse academic viewpoints and methodologies that I had never encountered before. Further, the program provided me with opportunities to establish contacts with other scholars through attending conferences and working with visiting scholars and specialists in Chinese studies. The experiences at UCSB nourished my intellect and built the foundation for my current academic life.”
STUDENT TRAVELS

A 10-day trip was taken by ten students in the 9th Summer China Trip. The program included three weeks of intensive study of Chinese language at Nanjing Normal University and one-week tour to Shanghai and Beijing. Information about this program can be obtained by emailing guan@eastasian.ucsb.edu.

I decided, rather spur-of-the-moment, to visit Taiwan this past summer when our language instructors presented the opportunity in class and a classmate begged me to go. I agreed, thinking of it as only a summer vacation, but never considered the profound effect it would have on me! Not knowing what to expect, it was only when I arrived that I finally realized what an amazing opportunity I had been given.

Taiwan boasts of beautiful scenery, amazing food, kind people, and extremely hot weather! The cities are diverse, fusing the ancient with the modern, and our group was privileged to see a great many sights through our university’s program. When we were not practicing Mandarin in our intensive language classes, we were out seeing the sights, smelling the aromas, and trying out our awkward language skills. I was pleased to find people eager to help and jubilant when we were mutually intelligible. Maybe Mandarin is not so difficult after all!

Taiwan struck me for its beauty, progressiveness, and most profoundly, its people. Everyone was kind, generous in every capacity, and helpful in repeating sentences slowly to my untrained ear. I am grateful for the patience they showed that helped me to progress quickly throughout my one-month stay. The confidence people demonstrated in my ability reassured me, and everyone—from my instructors to people I met on the street—showed such an eagerness to introduce me to the diversities of Taiwanese culture and contribute to my minimal vocabulary. What was a spontaneous decision resulted in the high point of my summer and one of my most enriching and fulfilling trips. Taiwan—a country that throbs with energy and vitality—is definitely worth a visit.

Hannah Dunham, UCSB

Profiles—Chinese Lecturers

Lecturer Bella Shu-Chuan Chen teaches first-year Chinese. She is passionate about teaching, organizes student activities, and reaches out to the local Chinese American community. Through the CTS and in collaboration with fellow lecturer, Jennifer Hsu, Chen arranges a summer trip to Taiwan for our students each year. The intensive language-learning experience in Taipei enhances the students’ skills and reinforces the UCSB Chinese-language program, while simultaneously providing a valuable cultural experience. Chen serves as editor of the Santa Barbara Chinese American Association Newsletter. Equipped with teaching experience and administrative skills, she has helped develop the curriculum for the Chinese School in Santa Barbara, and helps train new teachers, provides resources, and oversees school maintenance.

Jennifer Hsu, language instructor in the Department of East Asian Languages, was recognized by The Independent (October 4, 2007, p. 34) for her innovative initiative in establishing a Chinese School in the Santa Barbara community in 1994. The success of the program is ongoing; it currently enrolls about 80 children and helps to maintain their Mandarin skills and traditional Chinese culture and values. Hsu also hopes to establish Mandarin classes in the Santa Barbara School District system.

Lecturer Daoxiong Guan annually arranges for students to participate in a three-week program of intensive Chinese-language instruction at Nanjing Normal University, in Nanjing, China. Ten students participated in 2007’s summer program, the ninth trip Guan arranges, which also included one week of touring Shanghai and Beijing.

Information about future trips can be obtained by contacting Guan at guan@eastasian.ucsb.edu.
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