

Center for Chinese Studies



University of Michigan

WINTER 2008 NEWSLETTER



CCS Welcomes Mary Gallagher
as Interim Director for January 1-June 30, 2008

The U-M Center for Chinese Studies would like to welcome Mary Gallagher as the new CCS Interim Director. She has kindly offered to complete James Lee's term as he is currently on leave. Mary joined the faculty of the University of Michigan in 2000 and teaches classes on Chinese politics, labor rights in the global economy and research design.

We also wish to express our considerable gratitude to James Lee for his service and leadership to CCS over the past four years of his directorship. We look forward to his return to campus and continued involvement in the activities of the China Center.



Greetings!

Thanks to a generous gift from Professor Emeritus Donald Munro, the Tang Junyi Visiting Scholar Fund has been established within the U-M School of Literature, Sciences and the Arts. Created to support a visiting scholar in Chinese Thought, preference will be given to scholars with an academic focus toward Confucianism, philosophical Taoism, modern Chinese thought, or psychological topics relevant to ethics. Unique in its inception, the opportunity to invite a visiting scholar will be open to the departments of Philosophy, Asian Languages and Cultures, Psychology, and the Center for Chinese Studies. One visiting scholar will be invited each year. We extend our gratitude to Professor Emeritus Munro for providing this opportunity and, along with his wife Ann, look forward to welcoming future Tang Junyi Visiting Scholars to our academic community.

The Tang Junyi Visiting Scholar Fund

By Wang Zheng, Associate Professor of Women's Studies

How are global processes other than global capitalism affecting people in various locations? The IRWG housed international collaborative project, "Global Feminisms: Comparative Case Studies of Women's Activism and Scholarship," aims to ground studies of feminist globalization in local histories by documenting specific life histories of feminists in China, India, Poland and the US. The interdisciplinary research team at UM includes faculty and graduate students in feminist studies and area studies and has produced interviews of 42 feminists from the four locations. All the interviews were digitally recorded, and transcripts are translated into English, Chinese, and Polish. These materials are easily accessible in both digital and printed form, and are excellent sources for studying or teaching globalization and social movements from a comparative perspective, through deep consideration of local history and culture in examining dynamics between the local and global.

As the coordinator of the China site, I worked with a group of scholars in China on the production of interviews with ten selected Chinese feminists. While the four sites shared a common theme of exploring the relationship between feminist scholarship and activism, each site had the autonomy to decide which aspects of local feminism to highlight. The China site decided to map out feminist organizational development in the past two decades by recording life and work of some of the leading feminists who have pioneered in new forms of organized activism. The selected ten Chinese interviewees, all founders or leaders of large or small women's organizations, are the ones who managed to continue their feminist activism in the aftermath of 1989 and made good use of the opportunities and resources provided by China's hosting of the Fourth UN Conference on Women in 1995.

The selection of Chinese interviewees also took into consideration of the regional and ethnic diversity of feminists as well as diverse forms of activism. Interviewees are from Beijing, Shanghai, Xian, Guangzhou, and Yunnan, working on anti-domestic violence, gender and development, women's studies curriculum development, capacity building training for rural women and urban laid-off women, feminist films, and so on. Of the ten feminists interviewed, four are in the Women's Federation system. Two of the four, interestingly, are also founders of non-governmental organizations. The other six have founded various women's organizations without the resources from the WF system. But in most cases their organizations have worked closely with different levels of Women's Federations. For instance, the Stop Domestic Violence Network, obtaining large funds from international donors, has grown into the largest women's non-governmental organization in China that accepts members of local Women's Federations as its members and gives grants to government branches to work on anti-domestic violence projects. The virtual institutional blurring or overlapping of the two types of organizations poses thorny challenges to existing Western theories that draw a rigid line between NGOs and organizations sponsored by the government.

The ten interviews provide close-ups of feminist maneuvers that allow us to understand significant social, cultural, and political transformations in China at a micro level. Ranging in age from their early 40s to their early 70s, these dynamic agents of social change tell stories of their childhood, their families and work units, their aspirations, and their actions. A close reading of their narratives provides clues to how feminist subjectivities have been variously

Understanding China in the Context of Global Feminisms

shaped in the span of the whole PRC history. An interesting paradox is that although most of these feminists take a critical stance on the women's liberation policies of the Maoist state, their commitments to social justice and gender equality were nevertheless shaped in the Mao era. In fact the contemporary feminist movement in China is one of the few venues where the legacy of socialism gets to be expressed in revised or innovative forms. In other words, feminist activism is an important site for us to investigate both continuity and transformation of socialism in the age of capitalist globalization.

The oral histories invite us to enter not only each feminist's inner world but also each activist's webs of social connections that often extend beyond national boundaries. The narratives illustrate how intimate relations between the Chinese feminist movement and global feminist movements have been created, in what specific contexts, and what such relations mean to transformation of the Chinese society. Chinese feminists' tactful use of transnational opportunity structures, such as the UN conference on women, in their pursuit of domestic transformation towards social justice and gender equality demonstrates how the global can provide sources of power for local social agents to contest and rewrite the dominant script of China's modernity. When joining capitalist globalization became the agenda of the post-Mao state, the state's evasion of the term "capitalism" has left "globalization" ambiguous and malleable. It is in this context that Chinese feminists have openly advocated joining a feminist global movement as part of China's efforts of *yu shijie jiegui* (connecting the rail with the world). Moreover, they have turned the global feminist arena into a sort of Olympic Games of Women's Status, pressing different levels of officials to live up to the measures of gender equity set up by the UN and international feminist NGOs. In these and many more complicated ways, Chinese feminist practices have made China's globalization a multifaceted and multidirectional process that is full of contradictions, contestations, and constructional possibilities.

The selected Chinese interviewees are drawn largely from the same social group, urban educated professional women. While there are certainly women activists from lower classes taking initiatives at the grassroots level including rural villages, it is the urban professional women who have much more material, social and discursive resources to bring their activism to the national level. The value of these narratives is certainly not limited to students of social movements. Many interesting inquiries can follow an examination of these urban-based professional women activists. For example, if we compare these contemporary feminists with Qiu Jin who died heroically a century ago, we will recognize that the rise of professional women constitutes one of the most conspicuous changes in twentieth century China. What have been the effects of the rise of educated women in the public arena on diverse aspects of social and private life of Chinese people, men and women, old and young? Since historically literati were male by definition, in what ways does a modern intellectual history have to change its old paradigms in order to reflect the reality that now the very word "intellectual" includes both men and women and to fathom the ramifications of a changed gender composition in this elite group? And likewise, how must a study of contemporary politics of China change to include women in the conception of citizenship or democracy? In short, encountering this group of Chinese feminists could be an unsettling experience for scholars and students of China who have yet to take gender as an analytical category in their analyses. This is of course one of the values of these materials for the field of Chinese studies.



By **Yu Xie**, Otis Dudley Duncan Professor of Sociology and Statistics, Research Professor of ISR

The Survey Methodology and Quantitative Analysis Laboratory (SQL) at the U-M-Peking University Joint Institute was founded in the summer 2006. The SQL aims to bring to Peking University two of the U-M's unique and unparalleled strengths in social science research: survey methodology and quantitative methodology. It is partially funded by U-M's Institute for Social Research's (ISR's) Population Studies Center (PSC) through a grant from the Fogarty International Center of the National Institutes of Health. It is also co-sponsored by the Survey Methodology Program (SMP) and Quantitative Methodology Program (QMP), both part of the Survey Research Center of ISR. Professor Guo Zhigan at Peking University and I administer the lab.

The SQL trains graduate and undergraduate students, as well as junior scholars, in survey, statistical, and demographic methods in China. The primary mechanism for carrying out this mission is to offer a series of graduate-level courses, taught in English, on advanced topics in survey methodology and quantitative methodology. A selection of such courses is offered every summer so that participants can complete the requirements for a Certificate in Survey Methodology and Quantitative Analysis from ISR within three years. The ultimate goal of these efforts is to raise the level of social science data collection and analysis in China.

In the summer of 2006, we offered two courses: "Introduction to Survey Research" taught by Nora Schaeffer from the University of Wisconsin and "Applied Sampling Methods" taught by James Lepkowski from U-M. In summer 2007, I taught "Linear Regression Analysis" and Steve Raudenbush from the University of Chicago, taught "Hierarchical Linear Model." By all accounts, these courses have been greatly successful.

My linear regression class last summer was an unusual experience. Students included a large number of faculty members and graduate students from many universities in China, and a small number of undergraduate students at Peking University. The instruction was entirely in English. I did not water down the course material and taught exactly the same course that I usually teach at U-M. The course required that students complete nine exercises and two examinations.

I enjoyed my teaching experience. The students were all hard-working. Although the class started at 9 am in the morning, the students began to take up seats as soon as the building was open at 7 am. I have taught statistics for nineteen years, and this was the first time large numbers of students were waiting for me for two hours every time! I can't help but admire their devotion.



Teaching Statistics in China

By **Carol Stepanchuk**, CCS Outreach Coordinator

Jia You, Jia You!

On September 30, to the beat of drums and exhortations of hundreds of spectators, over 400 paddlers—experienced and non-experienced—competed in U-M's first dragon boat festival on the banks of the Huron River at Gallup Park. By the day's end, bolstered by clear and sunny skies, more than 5000 students, faculty, Ann Arborites and families from southeast Michigan took part in this traditional Chinese festival.

A campus-community partnership, Christopher Kendall, Dean of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance, his daughter Olivia, and Mrs. Daisy Wu brushed red ink on the eyes of a dragon head to "awaken" it for the races and launch the regatta. Professors Joseph Lam and Marty Powers briefed the morning crowds on festival background and theme year highlights as a lion dance set the rhythm for the day.

Twenty teams of 20 paddlers each raced with eight teams competing in the grand finale. In the end, the teams representing the College of Engineering, the International Institute students and the Chinese community placed first, second, and third, respectively. U-M Alumni News reported that The Office of the President and Alumni Association dragon boat placed seventh with heroic paddling from Professor James Lee, Director of the Center for Chinese Studies; Professor James Penner-Hahn of Chemistry; Professor Twila Tardif of Psychology; Professor Bright Sheng of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance; Erika Hrabec and Gary Krenz from President Coleman's staff; and Jo Rumsey from the Alumni Association, among others.

The Dragon Boat Festival was the capping point to a week rich in culture, drama, and dance including a dragon boat buoyancy workshop at the Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum organized by Professors Albert Shih and Jing Sun with School of Engineering students; a drum and gong lecture given by Professor Joseph Lam and visiting scholar Hengqiang Pu at the Ann Arbor Public Library; the Shen Wei Dance Arts production of "Second Visit to the Empress" (University Musical Society's season premiere); and an artist interview with Shen Wei conducted by Professors Joseph Lam and David Rolston.

"I've ... participated in countless "town-gown" collaborations. This was, by far, the most memorable for the number of people, colors and sounds, ages and backgrounds, laughter, learning and fun." Jo Rumsey, Alumni Association

"I have never seen such a diverse crowd at an event in my three years as a student here...It was a fresh way to learn about a new culture ..." Sylvia Okechukwu, student, "Hotter Trotter" racer.

Dragon Boat Festival Ushers in LSA China Theme Year

By Marjorie Horton, LSA Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education and Co-Director of Summer Reads '07

On a warm, sunny afternoon this past September, many of the university's first year undergraduates could be spotted walking briskly from all directions into the Power Center, quite a few with copies of the award-winning book, *China Shakes the World*, under their arms. James Kyngge, an international journalist covering many of the most significant events in Asia for two decades and the author of *China Shakes the World*, had traveled from Beijing to speak with the students about his book and the ongoing transformation of China into a great economic and political force. Kyngge's public talk, followed by a book signing and reception, was the keynote event of the inaugural summer reading program, 'Summer Reads '07'.

Sponsored by LSA, 'Summer Reads '07' connected over 1500 students, primarily first-year undergraduates, directly with the LSA Theme Year, ChinaNow: A Contemporary Exploration. Participating students were instructed to read *China Shakes the World* before arriving on campus in late August, as preparation for multiple campus events affiliated with the reading program and the theme year.

The goal of increasing undergraduate students' awareness of and involvement in the LSA Theme Year was the impetus for selecting a common reading related to China. To assist students and further their learning about contemporary China, a C-tools site offered several resources, including a readers' guide for Kyngge's book, a chat room, and RSS feeds from several Chinese and western news sources. Linked to participants' email addresses, the C-tools site has made it possible to notify students of upcoming ChinaNow theme year events.

The selection of *China Shakes the World* involved an initial review of over 80 books, both fiction and non-fiction. Faculty members, many from the Center, served on an advisory committee for the reading program and assisted in narrowing down the number of possibilities to a final list of three that were submitted to Dean Terry McDonald for his final selection. *China Shakes the World*, with its contemporary focus, balanced and incisive analysis, emerged as the Dean's choice.

The strengths of Kyngge's book, coupled with his wide-ranging expertise on the complex historical and current forces at play in China's transformation and his tireless engagement with our students and faculty, made *China Shakes the World* a superb choice for the inaugural year of 'Summer Reads'. In his 46 hours, including sleep, on the ground in Ann Arbor, Kyngge participated in 7 different campus events.

Upon reflection about his time on campus in September, Kyngge wrote in a recent email about our students' level of engagement and strong interest in China. "I felt very privileged to be part of that spirit of enquiry." He noted that student interest "seemed to agglomerate around the big questions – how China will fit into a world that has a largely different political system to its own authoritarian form of governance; how can China deal with its huge environmental problems; how can the US face the competitive challenge that China poses in manufacturing...There seemed to be very few of the self-absorbed type of question; "How do I make the most of China to make money?" that I often encounter in other forums."

Kyngge also wrote that he derived the most satisfaction during his visit "from the way in which students seemed really galvanized by the topic." One student who attended his talk and the dinner

in his honor, conveyed how meaningful her experiences were. "I didn't know really anything about China before reading his book, and now I not only learned about the economic situation in China and how it is affecting the global economy, but I am now passionate about the issues we face involving China."

On a final note, Kyngge has expressed interest in returning to U of M for a short-term teaching opportunity. If this comes to fruition, even more of our students will benefit from 'Summer Reads '07' and will learn how China continues to "shake the world."

1 Generous financial support from the College of LSA's Office of the Associate Dean for Undergraduate and Graduate Education and discount pricing from Shaman Drum Bookshop made the purchase of the book more affordable for students.

2 Special thanks go to CCS faculty associates James Lee, Ken Lieberthal, Don Lopez, Eric Mueggler, James Robson, and Twila Tardiff, and to Residential College Director, Charlie Bright, for their dedicated service on the Faculty Advisory Committee for 'Summer Reads '07'. CCS faculty associate Nico Howson was also instrumental in recruiting James Kyngge to participate in the program and in event planning for Kyngge's visit.



Photos courtesy of Kristina Doten, LSA Dean's Office

**Through large-scale summer reading program,
LSA connects undergraduates with ChinaNow theme year**

Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads "China and America: Bridging Two Worlds"

To complement the LSA China Theme Year, an eleven-member selection team, composed of community members, educators, students and librarians from the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area chose *The Eight Promise: An American Son's Tribute to his Toisanese Mother* by William Poy Lee as this year's community read. Lee's memoir gives a rare view of the Chinese-American experience from a mother-son perspective. The author and his mother were in Ann Arbor in January 2008.

Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti Reads is a campaign to encourage everyone in town to read and talk about the same book. Those who would like to put together a reading group, event, or participate in a training session are encouraged to contact the library (visit <http://www.aareads.org>).

Books for Peaceful Purposes

The Center for Chinese Studies has been the fortunate recipient of an endowment intended to promote the acquisition of knowledge of China for peaceful purposes. The Center uses these funds to help schools in southeast Michigan acquire teaching materials on China. With schools in metro Detroit and across the state developing Chinese culture curriculum and language courses, this resource has become of a valuable tool for educators. To apply, e-mail Carol Stepanchuk, cstep@umich.edu or write the Center for Chinese Studies. Grants of up to \$300 will be provided on a first come, first serve basis.

Teacher Workshops

China Immersion, a collaboration with UMS, CCS, U-M Museum of Art, and the Ann Arbor Chinese Center for Michigan was held on Saturday, Feb 2nd at the WISD Teaching and Learning Center. A full day of authentic, hands-on, and in-depth experiences with the culture, calligraphy, and celebrations of China, participants left the workshop ready to explore further the global and local Chinese community with their students, colleagues, and families.

Silk Route Professional Development Workshop for Teachers, U-M International Institute, Wednesday, March 19 and Saturday, May 3: This 2-part workshop for teachers explores the rich interactions resulting from these commercial ties, historically and into contemporary times. For more information, please e-mail Carol Stepanchuk at cstep@umich.edu.

Outreach

Victoria Chinn Chong, CCS MA

Since the moment we are born, human beings are placed under one or several categories, depending on the roles we willingly and unwillingly adopt and play throughout our lives. As a result, we become girls, boys, women, men, carnivores, vegetarians, students, workers, mothers, fathers, and so on. We become members and representatives of these categories, and more often than not, this is how other people come to know and recognize us: through the labels we carry, courtesy of the groups we supposedly belong to.

Therefore, this is how I introduced myself. I carry with me the labels of Chinese, Peruvian, daughter, sister, friend, and student. Usually, people do not have problems recognizing and acknowledging most of these labels; however, it is the second one – Peruvian – which causes surprise and puzzlement once I decide to reveal it. Born and raised in a small city in Peru, and yet the daughter of Chinese immigrants, I can easily understand people's confusion when instead of being just a Chinese speaker I become a Spanish speaker, or when instead of being very knowledgeable of the Chinese culture, I am seemingly more familiar with Peruvian cultural traditions and practices. This may be why as an undergraduate student at U-M I decided to become a better representative of the Chinese label I have, leading me to double major in Asian Studies, with a focus on China, and Political Science. While the first concentration allowed me to better understand my background and reconnect with my heritage, the latter concentration helped me to pursue another goal: that of becoming a political scientist—a new label and a new role I wanted and still want to adopt.

Writing my senior thesis on the Chinese erotic novel, *Jing Ping Mei*, known in English as *The Plum in the Golden Vase* or *The Golden Lotus*, provided me new labels as well—some welcoming, some much less so. However, it was through this experience that I learned that the unwelcoming labels—toward me or toward the novel—were just empty names. Although they carried specific meanings, it depended on me if I wanted to represent them. So just like my Peruvian label, to other people, I did not have it until I decided to be known as such. Furthermore, as I chose to write about the aforementioned novel, I made it my mission to demonstrate that despite being an erotic, lascivious novel, *Jin Ping Mei* is also a valuable literary piece to learn about Chinese society and its socio-political transformations during the Ming Dynasty.

Nevertheless, as I finished my undergraduate education I decided to "upgrade" my student label by becoming a Master's student at the Center for Chinese Studies in the fall of 2007. As a current student, I have the opportunity to work with a diverse faculty from all interdisciplinary areas. My aim is to deepen my understanding of China, especially from a political perspective,



Student Perspective

and utilize this knowledge to draw comparative studies between this nation and other regions of the world, especially with Latin America, given the limited literature that exists about this relationship. After finishing the program, I intend to work as a diplomat focusing on Sino-Peruvian relations, and eventually, the world of academia through the pursuit of a doctorate degree concentrating

on Political Science and the Eastern Asian region. In other words, I want to be a diplomat, a researcher, an academic. These are the labels I want other people to associate me with. Perhaps, I can be known beyond those names; perhaps, there is much more I can write about. But that shall depend on the interest of others to know me differently—to know me using their own labels.

THANK YOU! 龍舟歡慶

The U-M Center For Chinese Studies director and co-director, James Lee and San Duanmu; staff, Summer Tucker, Carol Stepanchuk, Gloria Caudill, Anna Moyer, Ena Schlorff, Maryellen Bartolome; /and executive committee, Nicholas Howson, Joseph Lam, Linda Lim, Meiying Lin, Christian de Pee, Marty Powers, James Robson, Bright Sheng, Twila Tardif, and Wang Zheng wish to thank many people—more than we can mention here—for helping us realize Ann Arbor's first-ever

Dragon Boat Festival on the Huron River Gallup Park • September 30, 2007

Ann Arbor Dragon Boat Festival • Championship Finals			
Race	Team	Place	Time
Grand Final	College of Engineering	1	1:27.94
	International Institute Students	2	1:31.13
Final 2	Chinese Community	3	1:29.48
	Medical School "Marooners"	4	1:29.92
Final 3	Coherix-Wu	5	1:28.43
	PIBS "New Pibs on the Block"	6	1:28.92
Final 4	President-Alumni	7	1:28.00
	Matthaei Botanical Gardens	8	1:29.54

A campus community partnership, this traditional Chinese festival launched the U-M College of Literature, Science and Arts China theme year through the support of:

President Mary Sue Coleman, deputy assistant Erika Hrabec, and special counsel Gary Krenz;

Co-sponsors: Mark Tessler, Rachel Snow, and Douglas Kennedy, International Institute; Deb Mexicotte, /Arts @ Michigan; Monita Thompson and Ed Burnett, Multi-Ethnic Student Affairs; and Nancy Florida and Jennifer Eshelman, Asian Languages & Culture;

Alumni sponsors: Jo Rumsey and Steve Grafton, /Alumni Association; faculty Christopher Kendall (and family), Marjorie Horton, Joseph Gramley, Albert Shih, Jing Sun, Nick Tobier, David Rolston

Announcers: Charley Sullivan and Yen-Ling von Meister

Staff support: Gregg Hartsuff, Jen Zhu, Rohit Setty, Jeff Terry, Sue Knight, Gary Custer, and Maryanne George

U-M Partners: Alumni Association, Center for Southeast Asian Studies, China Initiatives, Chinese Students & Scholars Association, College of Literature, Science & the Arts (LSA), Institute for Research on Women & Gender; Kinesiology; LSA Student Government; Matthaei Botanical Gardens & Nichols Arboretum; Michigan Community Scholars; Michigan Student Assembly; Department of Obstetrics & Gynecology; /Office of the President; Program in Bio-Medical Science; Rackham School of Graduate Studies; Residential College; School of Art & Design; School of Music, Theatre & Dance; School of Natural Resources and Environment; School of Social Work; Stearns Collection of Musical Instruments, U-M Grounds & Waste Management Services; U-M Men's Rowing Team; UMHS Women's Health Program; University Activities Center; University Asian American Medical Students Assoc., University Musical Society, S. M. Wu Manufacturing Research Center

Community Partners: Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan, Ann Arbor Hands-On Museum, Ann Hua Chinese School, Chinese American Society of Ann Arbor, Chinese Association of Greater Detroit, /City of Ann Arbor, Coherix, Comerica Bank, FOUNCY, Holiday Inn near the University of Michigan, Huron River Watershed Council, Michigan Chinese Women Association, Mandy and Pandy, Michigan Chinese Academic and Professional Association, Michigan Taiwanese American Organization, New Bright Industries-Int'l, Amy Seetoo Properties, University Bank, Visteon Asia Pacific Employee Network

Community Individuals: Daisy Wu, Tzywen Gong, Angela Yang, Shih-Wen Wu, Amy Seetoo, John Su, Brocade Wu, Hui Wang, Louis Yen, Roland Hwang, Rong Zhao, Hsien-Wen Feng, Jenny Jie Chen, /Robert Treadway, Jr., Rudolph W. von Meister, and Ellen Hsi

Performers: U-M Groove, U-M Percussion Ensemble, Asian Martial Arts Studio, Anita Lamour, Owen Anderson, Jeff Wagner, Lara Treemore-Spears, The School of Cultivation and Practice, and YoYo Spinners AACCOM

Demonstrations: Zongzi wrappers Guiqin Jiang, Xianfang Xu, Bingxian Zhang, and Huiying Wu; Children's lion dance from the Ann Arbor Chinese Center of Michigan; Papercutter Wenqin Zhen; /Mah-Jongg players Helin Wu, Quansheng Xu, De Zhang, Jun Zeng, Xiuzhu Lin, Shali Dai, Stuart Baggaley, Delores and Thomas McDole, and Mary Cowmeadow

Restaurant Sponsors and Businesses: TK Wu, Dynasty Buffet, Emerald City, Eastern Accents, Great Lakes Chinese Seafood, Royal Food Co., Saigon Garden, Jasmine Thai & China Bistro, Kai Garden, /Asian Legend, China Gate Restaurant, the Goodness Tree, Trader Joe's, Borders Books, and vendors Sweetwaters Coffee & Tea, Pilar's, Bubble Island, and Hot Dog on the Run

City, park, county, and watershed advisors: Janet Farrell, Cheryl Saam, Nancy Stone, Kristen Schweighoefer, and Joan Martin

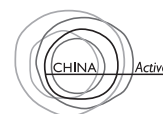
Dedicated Volunteers: Bethany Bates, Michelle Bien, Greg Cattell, Billy Caudill, Hsian-Yuan Chang, Theresa Yang Chang, Hsiu-mei Chao, Iris Chen, Nancy Chen, Yin Chen, Yung-Ming Chen, Danielle Davis, /Joanna Frye, Bob Fuller, Gregory Fuller, Shuzhen Gao, Puninder Jaitla, Ten Bin Juang, KeunYoung Kim, Michael Kuzmanovski, Kate Linebaugh, KT Lowe & Jeff, Bridget McCarthy, Neeraj Mehta, Vanessa Mettam, Jessica and Kristiana Orchowski, Tsung-Yu Pan, Jason Pasinetti, John Schurrer, Wanli Shyu, Janet Soave, Sunny Wang, Xi-Xi Wang, Yuan-Hwei Wang, Mee Li Lin Wu, Tsu-Yin Wu, Juh-Chin Yang, and /over 140 undergrads, grad students, and community helpers who gave so generously of their time.

Festival Support: SIA Security, Quest Communications, Glen-Ann Towing, Hamblin Signs, Huron Valley Ambulance, Lifeguards Dan McGuire and Amelia Moshie, U-M Transportation Services, /U-M Plant Operations, A-1 Rental, Action Rental, Great White North, Busch's, and Barry Bagel's

Designer: Seiko Semones

Photographers: Maria Brubeck and Ian Tadashi-Moore

And to all the paddlers and team-captains that made this event a success—Jia You!

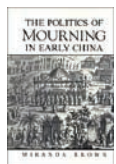


CCS Staff News

We bid farewell to **Gloria Caudill** who served as the CCS office coordinator from June 2005 until October 2007. Gloria was instrumental in handling all the logistics of the first-ever CCS Dragon Boat Festival and we are very grateful for all her good work. Gloria now serves as the administrator of Armenia Studies and we congratulate her on a well-deserved promotion.

At the same time, we wish to welcome **Anna Moyer** as the new CCS office coordinator as of January 2008, though she really came on board during the months prior to the Dragon Boat, working tirelessly with the CCS team to make the festival the successful event it came to be. A graduate of U-M, Anna comes to us after having spent years in the worlds of opera and event management and residential real estate sales. We are delighted she has agreed to join us.

Faculty Associate News



Miranda Brown, Department of Asian Languages and Cultures, had her book, *The Politics of Mourning in Early China*, published by SUNY Press in August 2007. Offering a new perspective on the mourning practices and funerary monuments of the Han dynasty, the book looks at these practices during the Han dynasty to reassess whether filial piety was the overriding model for society and governance in early China. We congratulate Miranda on her new book!

During Fall Term 2007, **Par Cassel**, Department of History, was invited to give a talk on *Getting Away with Murder: Revisiting Extraterritoriality in Nineteenth Century China* within the Speakers Series of the Department of East Asian Languages of the University of Illinois, Urbana. Additionally, during Winter Term 2008, he and **Nico Howson** (Assistant Professor of Law) are team teaching a course on Chinese legal history. This course explores major topics in Chinese legal history through selected readings of secondary and primary sources in English translation, as well as through the study of case reports and aspects of the literary tradition.



Chun Shu Chang, Department of History, has had Vol. 2 of his book *The Rise of the Chinese Empire* published by the University of Michigan Press (2007). In this second volume of his monumental history, Professor Chang provides the first systematic reconstruction of the history of the acquisitions and colonization undertaken by the Chinese empire. More information on the book and how to order can be found on the website of the University of Michigan Press at <http://www.press.umich.edu>. Additionally, CS and **Shelley Chang**, CCS Center Associate, has had their book *The Socioeconomic Revolution and the Age of Modernity in Seventeenth Century China* published by the Classics Press in Shanghai. This publication is a new Chinese version of the Changs' *Crisis and Transformation in Seventeenth-Century China* (1998 ed.), which won the CHOICE "Outstanding Academic Title of the Year" in the U.S. We congratulate them on their newest publications!



We wish to welcome Associate Professor **Lydia Li** as a new CCS faculty associate. Professor Li comes to the China Center from the U-M School of Social Work, where she has been on the faculty since 2000. Her research focuses on issues related to elder care and falls into

three areas: (1) the stress and adaptation process of family caregivers; (2) the dynamics of physical disability, psychological distress, and formal and informal care of frail elders living in the community; and (3) the well-being of older adults in contemporary China. We are delighted that she has joined our academic community.

Christian de Pee, Department of History, has published his first book, *The Writing of Weddings in Middle-Period China: Text and Ritual Practice in the Eighth through Fourteenth Centuries*, with the State University of New York Press (www.sunypress.edu). In this book, Professor de Pee attempts to recover the ritual practice of weddings during the Tang, Song, and Yuan dynasties. Additionally, the journal *Nan Nü: Men, Women, and Gender in China* will publish Professor de Pee's translation of a fourteenth-century short story, under the title "Words of Seduction, Lines of Resistance: Writing and Gender in Zheng Xi's *Dream of Spring* (1318)." We congratulate Christian on his first book!

Donald Munro, CCS faculty emeritus of philosophy, was the Tang Junyi Visiting Professor at The Chinese University of Hong Kong in October 2006, during which time he gave a graduate seminar and two public lectures. Recently he has been working on the proofs of a manuscript derived from those events, to be published by The Chinese University Press in their series on Presentations by the Tang Professors (the previous ones are by the German Professor Bernhard Waldenfels and by Columbia University's W. Theodore de Bary). His is entitled *Workable Guidelines for Public and Private Choices: Ethics in Action*. It draws on work he has been doing over the past decade in the Psychology Department's Evolution and Human Development, and Culture and Cognition, programs and applies the findings in those fields to Chinese ethics.

We also congratulate **Marty Powers**, History of Art, who has been selected to receive the 2008 Joseph Levenson Book Prize for Pre-China on behalf of the China and Inner Asia Council of the Association for Asian Studies and the Joseph Levenson Prize Committee, in recognition of his achievement as the author of, *Pattern and Person: Ornament, Society and Self in Classical China*, published by Harvard University Asia Center. He will be honored at the upcoming AAS annual meeting April 4th in Atlanta.

News

Center Associate News:

John Timothy Wixted (B.A., Toronto; M.A., Stanford; D.Phil., Oxford) – or Tim, as he prefers to be called – has been a Center Associate since 2005, shortly after he retired to Harbert, Michigan, in the southwestern part of the state. He is Professor Emeritus of Asian Languages at Arizona State University, where he taught Chinese and Japanese languages and literatures for twenty-six years. The author of four books and translator of a fifth, Tim's most recent work is *A Handbook to Classical Japanese* (Ithaca, N.Y.: Cornell East Asia Series, 2006). His other volumes are *Japanese Scholars of China: A Bibliographical Handbook* (Lewiston, N.Y.: The Edwin Mellen Press, 1992); translation of Yoshikawa Kōjirō *Five Hundred Years of Chinese Poetry, 1150-1650: The Chin, Yuan, and Ming Dynasties* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1989); *Poems on Poetry: Literary Criticism by Yuan Hao-wen (1190-1257)* (Wiesbaden: Franz Steiner, 1985); and *The Song-Poetry of Wei Chuang (836-910 A.D.)* (Tempe: Center for Asian Studies, Arizona State University, 1979). Tim is currently working on two book-projects each, on the Chinese and Japanese fronts: on the Chinese side, a general introduction to the poetry of the thirteenth-century writer, Yuan Haowen, and a volume on the sixth-century critic, Zhong Rong, author of *Shipin* (Poetry Gradings); and on Japanese side, a study of the translation-literature of Mori Ōgai (1862-1922), and a book on the *kanshi* (Sino-Japanese poetry) of Mori Ōgai.



Guoqi Xu, Wen Chao Chen chair of history and East Asian affairs at Kalamazoo College, spent 2006-2007 sabbatical year at the University of Michigan and finished his book *Olympic Dreams: China and sports, 1895-2008*. The book will be available in April 2008 from Harvard University Press. It is a second volume of his series on China's internationalization. The first volume titled *China and the Great War* was published by Cambridge University Press in 2005. Professor Xu has recently finished another volume titled *Chinese laborers in France during the First World War*, published in Chinese and French by Inter-Continental Press in Beijing in November 2007. This book examines the case of Chinese laborers in France during the Great War. With still on-going further research and broader focus, Professor Xu plans to finish a much expanded and more scholarly English version on the same topic in 2009. The new book is tentatively titled *Fusions of Civilizations: Chinese laborers in France during the WW I and China's search for a new national identity and internationalization*. This book will serve as his third volume in his series on China's internationalization. We congratulate Guoqi on his newest publications!

And What about You?

CCS would like to feature short articles written by current students and CCS alumni that focus on your activities, summer research, recent awards, current positions and how they relate to your UM degree, and any other news you would like to share. Photos are welcome! We also encourage all students and alumni to update us with your current addresses and employers. For CCS alumni, let us know your name, class year, degree and whether you would like to be included in an events notification e-mail group. Please contact us at chinese.studies@umich.edu. You're also welcome to write to us at our center address or fax this information to us at 734-764-5540. We look forward to hearing from you.

Visiting Scholars

Jintao Yang, an instructor at Xiamen University, joined the CCS academic community as of January 2008. He will be housed in the Department of Anthropology while being hosted by Professor Erik Mueggler. Dr. Yang's primary research interest is in medical anthropology, and he seeks specifically to compare aging in American and Chinese society. He will be on campus for one year.

Alumni News

Jonathan Hanson, Ph.D. in political science, has taken a tenure-track position of assistant professor at Syracuse University. He is currently teaching comparative political economy and methods in the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs

M. Dujon Johnson, CCS MA, was recently honored by the 39th NAACP Image Awards by having his book *Race and Racism in the Chinas: Chinese Racial Attitudes Toward Africans and African-Americans* nominated for an award within the Outstanding Literary Work – Non-Fiction category. We congratulate M. Dujon on receiving this distinguished nomination. M. Dujon is now in a doctoral program at National Sun Yat-Sen University in Taiwan.

Benjamin Ridgway, Ph.D. in Asian Languages and Cultures, has accepted the position of assistant professor of Chinese language and literature at Valparaiso University. We congratulate him on his new position.

Student News

The student-initiated China Workshop at the University of Michigan is an interdisciplinary workshop created with the purpose of providing a space where students and faculty of different disciplines and methodological backgrounds can develop, share, and refine their work involving China. Our hope is to foster a community of scholars that can forge better connections and facilitate the development and presentation of original scholarship in the area of Chinese Studies.

Meetings are usually held in the School of Social Work Building (SSWB), Room 1644, from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m., every other Friday. The future meetings for W08 will take place on Mar. 7th in Room 6000, 202 S. Thayer Building, Mar. 21st, Apr. 4th, and Apr. 18th in Room 2609 SSWB.

For more information about the workshop, or presentation of new or on-going projects, please contact the China Workshop team at the following e-mail: umchinaworkshop@gmail.com.

Growing up in China, I have been interested in archaeology since my early teens and always wanted to explore the diversity of human experience in depth through archaeological expeditions. Anthropology was an attractive field for me to pursue my interest in archaeology, as it allows one to approach the development of early China in a comparative framework among other early civilizations, and encourages one to understand the situation in China in the context of broader human interaction on various scales, from interregional to global.

I started my doctoral program in the U-M Dept. of Anthropology in 2000. My dissertation research, entitled "Conquest, Concord, and Consumption: Becoming Shang in Eastern China," investigates the ways that aspects of symbolic, social, and natural worlds converged in human interactions with animals, particularly in the realms of food and religious communication on the frontiers of the Shang civilization in the late second millennium B.C.

The Shang was one of several early civilizations in Bronze Age China. With generous support from CCS and the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, I excavated the residential area of the Shang Daxinhuang site in 2005 in collaboration with archaeologists in Jinan as my dissertation fieldwork. The excavation produced a rich body of archaeological material including oracle bones, human and animal sacrifice, and a large quantity of animal bones, ceramics, and plant remains from daily consumption. Several members of the archaeology faculty from U-M participated in the fieldwork and contributed their expertise in archaeological science.

Beside my dissertation work, my student career at the U-M offered me a valuable opportunity for understanding China in the lens of her place at the threshold of global trade four centuries ago. When I started my first research assistantship working with the Asian ceramics collection at the Museum of Anthropology, my advisor, Professor Carla Sinopoli, gave me a tour of the Asian Range. I was immediately fascinated by the impressive scope of these collections and the rich social dynamics that they have to offer in understanding China and its broader world in the era of early global trade.

The most important Asian ceramic collections are the Plumer collection and the Guthe collection, testimony to the university's complex historical legacy in China and Southeast Asia in the decades before WWII. The Plumer collection is primarily ceramic samples and kiln furniture collected from many historical sites in China as well as ceramics from urban sites in coastal China. The Guthe collection is an enormous collection of archaeological material from the Philippines (15,000 items) that includes several thousand pieces of Chinese export ceramics primarily dating between the 13th and 17th century. Both collections are unique in their own right--one reveals the manufacturing process at the production sites, and the other informs on multifaceted ways that Chinese export ceramics featured into the social, political, and religious lives of consumer societies abroad. Philippines was critical in understanding the inception of the early global trade as China and the Americas were connected for the first time through the inauguration of the Manila Galleon in the last quarter of the 16th century.

To learn more about them and their historical context, I embarked on a long academic quest that brought me to kiln sites, port cities, shipwreck excavations, and museums in coastal China and Southeast Asia, which allowed insight into the production

organization, trade, and consumption pattern of these ceramics. The industrial scale in these export-oriented kilns seven centuries ago is stunning—a "kiln site" frequently consisted of dozens of large dragon kilns, some measure 130 meters long and capable of housing 100,000 pieces for a single firing. A single site could span several kilometers.

When placed in the context of recent archaeological research, in and beyond China, these important collections have the potential to inform on the dramatic social and economic changes that occurred as the traditional Asiatic trade network became increasingly incorporated into a global economy. The research effort not only helps to understand the revival of Asian Pacific economy today by giving it a deep time depth but also provides alternative ways to investigate the profound social consequences of early global encounter for the "people without history."

As work turned into a passion, one of the products was an undergraduate summer course entitled "Fragments of Globalization: Archaeology of Early Modern Trade and Piracy," which I taught in the Dept. of Anthropology in 2007. It was a rewarding experience to work with the students on centuries-old archaeological ceramics while addressing questions so deeply relevant to our contemporary era. When we discussed the LSA theme year of China and its place in an era of intensified globalization, my students were happy in finding the inception of this long trajectory among the hidden treasures at our university.



Student Perspective





For a comprehensive list of both CCS and other China-related events on campus, please go to the LSA ChinaNow Theme Year website at www.lsa.umich.edu/chinanow and click on "Events." Information on Center Center events can also be found on the CCS website at www.ii.umich.edu/ccs, or you are welcome to contact the Center for Chinese Studies at 734-764-6308 or by e-mail at chinese.studies@umich.edu and request that a mailing be sent to you.

Events

University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA)

UMMA Off/Site Location • 1301 South University •
<http://www.umma.umich.edu/>

UMMA held the exhibition **Inge Morath and Arthur Miller: China** from January 12-March 23, 2008 in the UMMA Off/Site, 1301 South University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI. In 1978, only two years after the end of China's Cultural Revolution, photographer Inge Morath and her husband, playwright Arthur Miller, were invited to travel to China. They returned again in 1979 and 1983, fueled by Morath's knowledge of Chinese language, poetry, and history, and Miller's interest in the politics of the present moment. This exhibition captures two artists responding to a society in transition—photographs by Morath, accompanied by excerpts from both her and Miller's journals, which reflect Morath's empathy for China's people and culture and her urgent desire to understand what Miller called "China's contradiction": the ongoing struggle of new traditions in conflict with ancient ones.

The exhibition was curated by John P. Jacob, Director, The Inge Morath Foundation, and organized by The Inge Morath Foundation, New York.

Resources



129th UMS Season 2007|2008

Celebrating the University of Michigan China Theme Year

Wu Man *pipa* and the Chinese Shawm Band

SUN, FEB 10 | 4 PM
Rackham Auditorium



Wu Man is an internationally renowned virtuoso of the *pipa*, a lute-like Chinese instrument whose history dates back more than 2,000 years. Born in Hangzhou, China and now living in San Diego, she is recognized as an outstanding exponent of the traditional repertoire as well as a leading interpreter of contemporary *pipa* music by today's most prominent composers, including Bright Sheng (she created the original Goddess Weaver in *Silver River*, which UMS presented last season), Philip Glass, Lou Harrison, Tan Dun, Chen Yi, and others. A frequent participant in Yo-Yo Ma's Silk Road Project, Wu Man makes her UMS debut as part of the season's global focus on artists from Asia, and as part of the U-M China Theme Year. She is joined by the Chinese Shawm Band, among the most exhilarating of the gypsy bands of China.

The 07/08 Family Series is sponsored by **Toyota**.

Lang Lang *piano*

WED, APR 2 | 8 PM
Hill Auditorium



The ebullient Chinese pianist Lang Lang received his big break at age 17, with his dramatic last-minute substitution for André Watts at the Ravinia Festival, where he performed the Tchaikovsky Concerto with the Chicago Symphony. Since then, he has progressed from one triumphant appearance to the next. Now 25, he has demonstrated an extraordinary ability to connect with audiences on a deeply personal level and has established himself as one of the most exciting pianists of our time. "In the face of this young Chinese artist's technical arsenal," says the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "there is nothing to do but gape in awestruck amazement." Program to be announced.

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UM Asia Library

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<http://www.lib.umich.edu/asia>

By Mei-ying Lin, Senior Associate Librarian

"ChinaNow: A Contemporary Exploration" is the topic of the University's theme year. Thus University Library's annual Friends of the Library reception/exhibition celebrated the wealth of material on China in the University Library's collections. The event was held in Hatcher Graduate Library's Reference Room on September 28.

Asia Library played a central role in this year's event, covering three tables in the Reference Reading Room with exquisite scrolls, rare books and maps, and ceramics. Government Documents, the Map Library, Special Collections, Askwith Media, Fine Arts, and Art and Architecture Libraries also exhibited selected materials from their collections.

The event sought to draw donors and prospective donors into the library to familiarize them with the library's rich collections, and also to acquaint them with the library's upcoming events and long-range plans. The event was by far the largest of its kind for the University Library in recent history.

Through the Fall Term Hatcher's north lobby features an informative exhibit highlighting LSA Theme Year/ChinaNow events. The exhibit showcases the varied China-related resources and services offered by University Library, especially those of its renowned Asia Library.

Asia Library is the recipient of a \$30,000 endowment gift in honor of Mr. Weiyang Wan, emeritus librarian, Asia Library/University Library. The generous gift was provided by Mr. Wan's son, Dr. Julian Wan. Thanks to Mr. Weiyang Wan's years of leadership, Asia Library is one of the finest research facilities of its kind in North America, indeed the world. Dr. Wan's gift will enable Asia Library to further expand its collections and improve its services.

Asia Library provides telephone and in-house reference assistance to faculty, students, staff, and visiting scholars and foreign delegations. During this semester, for example, the library conducted orientation sessions/tours for new faculty and students and led tours of the premises for scholars and administrators from Beijing and Nanjing Universities.





CCS Needs Your Help

Since 1961, CCS has built country-specific endowments to support faculty and student research and travel, visiting lecturers, and most recently an innovative team-taught interdisciplinary seminar in Chinese Studies. Our newly created Summer Program in Beijing further enhances our graduate student academic experience by providing advanced training to students from both UM and Peking University in the theories and methods of China studies, and has served as a source of intensified interest throughout other schools and programs at the University of Michigan in establishing academic programs in China. The recently established UM-Peking University Joint Institute provides essential support these programs while facilitating UM faculty research, collaborative projects and teaching opportunities in Beijing.

We hope that you will contribute generously to our effort to build the Center's financial security by sending your gift or pledge today. Please return this form with your check to CCS or contact us directly at 734-764-6038.

Have you thought of making a gift to CCS and receiving a lifetime income, too? A life income plan provides immediate tax advantages and generates annual income streams for you or other named beneficiaries. The University of Michigan will help you select the plan that is best for you and your situation. Call toll-free 1-866-233-6661, e-mail giving2@umich.edu, or visit the website at www.giving.umich and select the "Need Information for Planned Giving" option.

Please detach this form and return with your check to:

The Center for Chinese Studies, Suite 3668 SSWB, University of Michigan, 1080 South University, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1106

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Lang Lang (piano)

University Musical Society

On Wednesday, April 2, 2008 Lang Lang performed at Hill Auditorium. His program included six traditional Chinese Works from his 2006 album, *Dragon Songs*.

