

HARVARD-YENCHING INSTITUTE 2008-2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Elizabeth Perry joined the Institute on July 1, 2008. Under Professor Perry's directorship, the Institute has increased collaboration with Harvard faculty, area centers, HYI alumni, and partner institutions in Asia to heighten HYI's reputation abroad as well as in the US and to raise the profile of scholars from Asia. As part of this effort, the HYI website was redesigned to serve as a medium for dialogue among Asian scholars on topics related to the humanities and social sciences, with a focus on culture. In spring 2009 two new features were added to the HYI website: New Frontiers in Asian Scholarship and the Working Paper series.

The Institute has also undertaken two new initiatives to serve its core mission of promoting higher education in Asia by supporting graduate students. The first of these programs provides promising younger scholars an opportunity to acquire further preparation for doctoral studies at Harvard or other major programs in the U.S. by supporting MA-level work in the Regional Studies-East Asia (RSEA) program at Harvard. The first group of students enrolled in the RSEA in 2009-2010. The second new initiative is a joint program with the National University of Singapore (NUS) for younger faculty from Southeast Asia to pursue PhD studies at NUS with a year at Harvard-Yenching as a Visiting Fellow. Scholars selected for this program will be enrolled at NUS beginning in academic year 2010-2011.

A new grant opportunity was established to increase participation of Asia-based scholars in major scholarly conferences on Asian Studies held primarily at Harvard University. The grant supports up to four such scholars (preferably from more than one Asian country) per conference. A new grant was also made available to support short-term research in special collections of the Harvard-Yenching Library by senior scholars from Asia.

Academic year 2008-2009 saw the successful first year of a two-year training program in comparative literature organized by Professor Stephen Owen. Four Chinese scholars were selected to spend the academic year at the Institute as part of this program.

What follows are listings of the Institute's in-house seminars, titles of papers and books reviewed on the HYI website, publications supported by the Institute, as well as reports on the Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies, the Harvard-Yenching Library and the HYI training program.

*denotes HYI affiliated scholar

IN-HOUSE SEMINARS

These seminars were presented by Harvard faculty as well as Institute affiliates.

- 9/19 *Peter Kelley, Executive Director*
Harvard-Yenching Institute: Tremendous Undertaking or a Modest Contribution?
- 10/3 *Guo Jianhua, Harvard-Yenching Institute doctoral scholar, PhD 2008, Anthropology*
Stigma: social suffering for social exclusion and social insecurity—From the ethnology of mental illness to the ethnography of HIV/AIDS in China
- 10/10 *Professor Elizabeth Perry, Director of the Harvard-Yenching Institute*
Anyuan (安源): Mining China's Revolutionary Tradition
[Follow-up group discussion took place several weeks later]
- 10/17 *Professor Rowan Flad, Department of Anthropology*
Investigating Early Complex Societies in China: Notes on Four Projects, past and present
- 10/30 *Professor Jong-Ho Jeong* co-sponsored with Fairbank Center*
From Illegal Migrant Settlement to Legal Business District: A Case Study of Spatial Restructuring of Post-Socialist Urban Space in Beijing's Migrant Enclaves
Discussants: Professor Michael Herzfeld, Department of Anthropology and Professor Elizabeth Perry, Department of Government, Director of the Harvard-Yenching Institute
- 11/14 *Professor Richard Cooper, Maurits C. Boas Professor of International Economics*
Climate policy
- 11/ 21 *Professor Larry Buell, Professor of American Literature*
What is 'Ecocriticism'? Problems of Translation in the Development of an Emerging Critical Discourse
- 11/8 *Professor Zhu Xufeng*, Zhou Enlai School of Government, Nankai University, Cosponsored with Fairbank Center*
China's Think Tanks in the Policy-Making Process
- 12/12 *Professor Ethan Segal, Assistant Professor, Michigan State University, Visiting Professor in Japanese History, EALC*
New and Old Problems in the Study of Japanese History
- 2/6 *Professor Catherine Yeh, Boston University*
The Stuff Stars Are Made of: International Politics, Mass Media and the Rise of Dan Actors in the Republican Era (1910s-1930s)
娱乐文化与社会变迁：国际政治，大众传媒，文人趣味与民国初年京剧旦角的兴起
[March 6, Followup roundtable]
- 2/13 *Dr. Chen Jeng-guo*, Associate Research Fellow, Institute of History & Philology, Academia Sinica*
China in the Conceptualization of Civil Society in the Scottish Enlightenment

- 2/20 *Dr. Lobsang Sangay, Research Fellow, East Asian Legal Studies Program, HLS*
Is Negotiated Solution on Tibet Possible? [Two follow-up roundtable discussions took place on March 19 and June 12 presided by Professor Leonard van der Kuijp, Professor of Tibetan and Himalayan Studies]
- 2/27 *Zhu Xufeng*, Associate Prof Zhou Enlai School of Government, Nankai University*
Doesn't Environmental Civil Society Matter?
- 3/2 *Professor Jeong Jong-Ho*, Associate Professor of China Area Studies, Graduate School of International Studies, Seoul National University*
Restructuring Wenzhou Model: A Case Study of the Development of Zhejiangcun, A Migrant Settlement in Beijing
- 3/6 *Professor Fang Cheng-Hua*, History Department, National Taiwan University*
Civil-Military Relationship: An Approach to Understand the Uniqueness of Song Dynasty China
- 4/3 *Professor Philip Kuhn, Francis Lee Higginson Research Professor of History and of East Asian Languages and Civilizations*
Overseas Chinese
- 4/9 *Professor Billy Kee-Long So (HYI Visiting Scholar '96-97), History, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Director of the CUHK-CCK Foundation Asia Pacific Centre for Chinese Studies, 1996-97 HYI Visiting Scholar*
Republican Beijing Urban Cultures: What More Can GIS Tell Us More?
- 4/24 *Professor Arthur Kleinman, Esther and Sidney Rabb Professor, Department of Anthropology, Harvard University and Professor of Medical Anthropology in Social Medicine and Professor of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School*
Moral Experience in East Asian Studies
- 4/24 *Professor Wu Fengshi*, Department of Government and Public Administration, Chinese University of Hong Kong*
Environmental Activism and Civil Society Development in China
- 5/5 *Dr. Yang Shu-Yuan*, Assistant Research Fellow, Institute of Ethnology, Academia Sinica*
Christianity, Modernity, and Socio-Cultural Changes among the Bugkalot (Ilongot) of Northern Luzon, Philippines
- 5/15 *Professor Karen Thornber, Department of Literature & Comparative Literature*
East Asian Literatures and Environmental Crises: Contradictions and Conundrums

NEW FRONTIERS IN ASIAN SCHOLARSHIP

The following books were reviewed for the series from April-June 2009.

The Plight of China's Working Class: Annals of Anyuan, Yu Jianrong. Reviewed by Yan Xiaojun

The Transformation of Religions and Religious Beliefs in Vietnam Today, edited volume. Reviewed by Pham Quynh Phuong

Modernity, Asia, and the Yangming School, Ogyû Shigehiro. Reviewed by Makabe Jin*

A Cliometric Review of Late Chosŏn History, edited by Rhee Young Hoon. Reviewed by Ilsoo David Cho

WORKING PAPER SERIES

The following as yet published papers were posted on the HYI Website from April-June 2009.

Friendship and Equality in Tan Sitong's Concept of Pingdeng (Chen Jeng-Guo*, Academia Sinica)

Popular Protest in China: Playing by the Rules (Elizabeth J. Perry)

From Mass Campaigns to Managed Campaigns: "Constructing a New Socialist Countryside" (Elizabeth J. Perry)

Environmental Activism in China: 15 Years in Review, 1994-2008 (Wu Fengshi*, Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Negotiating for a Green Home: Justifications and Forms of Associations in a Public Controversy in Shenzhen (Brenda Chun Liu*, The Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Resilient Lilong: an Ethnography of Shanghai's Urban Housing (Non Arkaraprasertkul*, Oxford University)

Franco-Vietnamese Schools and the Transition from Confucian to a New Kind of Intellectual in the Colonial Context of Tonkin (Tran Thi Phuong Hoa*, Vietnam Institute of History)

Goddess Beliefs in the Chinese Lingnan Area (Nguyen Ngoc Tho*, University of Social Sciences & Humanities, Vietnam National University-Ho Chi Minh City)

The Production of Alternative Media in Mainland China: a Case Study of the Journal Friend Exchange (Cao Jin*, Fudan University)

OVERSEAS PUBLICATIONS

In addition to the ongoing publications supported by the Institute, *China Scholarship, Yenching Journal* and *History of Chinese Philosophy*, the Institute supported its first Vietnamese publication *Changes in Religions and Cults in Contemporary Vietnam*. The first peer-reviewed, academically independent publication in Vietnam, this is part of a scholarly series entitled *the HYI Publication Series in Social Sciences and Humanities*. Contributors to this series are professors and lecturers from Vietnamese universities, and the series will serve as reference materials for both teachers and students in higher education in Vietnam.

WORKSHOPS

The Institute (co)sponsored the following workshops:

- 10/24-25 The Chinese Art of Enlivenment: A Symposium, cosponsored with The Rockefeller Fund, Department of History of Art and Architecture, and the Fairbank Center for Chinese Studies, organized by Professor Eugene Wang
<http://www.fas.harvard.edu/~eaah/conferences/oct-2008/introduction.html>
- 2/8-15 Harvard College in Asia Program conference bringing together students from six universities in Asia to spend time with Harvard college students
- 4/17-19 Asian Neighborhoods Research Group "Mobility and Territory" organized by Professor Michael Herzfeld
- 4/24 East Asian Studies & Science and Technology Studies: Towards Productive Cross-fertilization" organized by Yi Sang-Wook* cosponsored by the Department of East Asian Languages & Civilizations and the History of Science

ALUMNI EVENTS

- August 2008 Suzhou Alumni Conference. *Economic Growth and Social Development: East Asian Cultural Perspectives* (co-sponsored with Nanjing University and Suzhou Industrial Park Administrative Committee)
- March 2009 Taiwan Alumni Gathering, Taipei, Taiwan

ASSOCIATION FOR ASIAN STUDIES

The Institute began its collaboration with the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) in 2008-2009 as a vehicle for raising the scholarly profile of leading Asian academics. Towards that end, in April 2009 the Institute hosted its first reception at the annual AAS meeting in Chicago and supported transportation expenses of HYI affiliates to attend the meeting. Although organized on short notice, this event was very well attended. The Institute will continue to hold such receptions in the future. AAS has agreed to invite HYI Pusey and Ingall's fellows to be keynote speakers at the annual AAS meeting. Finally, the Institute contributed \$1500 towards funding of the Association's Joseph R. Levenson Book Prize in order to maintain this prestigious prize which honors the best works in the field of Chinese Studies in the English language.

HARVARD-YENCHING LIBRARY

The Institute continued its support of the Harvard-Yenching Library in the amount of \$1,400,000 for academic year 2008-2009. Mr. James Cheng reports the following from the Library's annual report.

As of June 30, 2009, the Harvard-Yenching Library's collections reached 1,262,462 volumes, an increase of 40,075 volumes in FY09. This is the largest annual increase in the past five years. The Library's collections include 725,304 Chinese volumes, 317,024 Japanese volumes, 145,083 Korean volumes, 17,219 Vietnamese volumes, 49,618 volumes in various Western languages, and 8,214 Tibetan, Manchu, and Mongolian volumes. The Library subscribes to over 8,400 current serial titles, including Chinese statistical yearbooks. The microform collection has grown to 112,641 reels/pieces.

In national rankings, the Chinese and Korean collections continue to be at the top among peer institutions, with the exception of the Library of Congress. The Japanese Collection is still ranked third in the nation, after the University of California at Berkeley and Columbia University. Within Harvard, the Harvard-Yenching Library retains its ranking as the third largest library among all library units.

With the support of the Edna & Yu-Shan Han Charitable Foundation and the *HYI*, Dr. Xiangyang Long of Fudan University Library spent this year working with the Librarian for the Chinese Collection with a focus on collection development. Dr. Long devoted much of his time studying the Chinese publications of the Republican period (1912-1949) which are housed in the Library. He discovered that the Library holds close to 50,000 Chinese titles of this period, which is the largest collection of Republican publications outside of China. Of these titles, 2,200 titles are not available among the major academic libraries in China. Dr. Long will publish the Catalogue of Republican Period Publications in the Harvard-Yenching Library (Harvard-Yenching Library Bibliographical Series, No. 14) and he will also edit a reprint series of these publications that will be published by the Guangxi Normal University Press in China in 2010.

Hisashi Kadoya of Keio University Library in Tokyo completed his one-year program as the third Visiting Japanese Librarian. During his sojourn at Harvard, Mr. Kadoya focused on IT

developments in academic libraries, and since his home library will switch to the Aleph system in 2009, he spent a substantial portion of his time in observing how the Aleth system works at Harvard. In addition, Mr. Kadoya helped prepare the Library's Japanese books for the Google digitization project. This experience will be useful for him and for Keio University Library since Keio is the sole partner with the Google Books Project in Japan.

The Harvard-Yenching Institute funds were used mainly in support of acquisitions and for a number of staff positions in the Library. The Institute also contributed funds to digitize the Naxi pictographic manuscripts in the Harvard-Yenching Library. Due to the global financial crisis impacting Harvard, the Harvard-Yenching Library, like all library units within the Harvard College Library system, suffered a 15% budget cut in FY09. Five library staff members participated in the voluntary early retirement program and retired in July 2009. Two staff positions could not be filled; and two half-time staff positions were eliminated. As a result, the Harvard-Yenching Library lost a total of nine staff positions, representing almost 25% of its manpower. Fortunately, the Harvard College Library administration exempted the Institute's contributions to the Library from the 15% budget reduction mandated by the Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences.

HARVARD JOURNAL OF ASIATIC STUDIES

Report by Joanna Handlin Smith

The Journal continues to receive manuscript submissions at a healthy pace, one that has yielded four worthy articles apiece for the December 2008 and June 2009 issues. Also gratifying has been the generally high quality of in-depth book reviews, in large part by scholars of considerable distinction whose contributions signal that they value HJAS. See the two tables of contents, herewith attached.

New issues of HJAS, starting with HJAS 69.1 (June 2009), are now immediately available online through Project Muse. In preparation for this change, especially to avoid possible problems concerning licensed fonts, I engaged a designer (Judith Waterman), who worked with the compositor (David Goodrich) and myself in developing a new design.

The Journal is extremely fortunate to have the services of David Goodrich, whose commitment to and pride in his work, as well as his skill in redoing maps and tables, is extraordinary. The Journal has also been well served by Nancy Sullivan as proofreader (on an issue-by-issue basis); and, as needed, by the occasional editorial assistance of Alice Cheang (one article during the past fiscal year) and book-review assistant Jeffrey Moser.

After consulting with Elizabeth Perry in June 2009, I thanked two members of the Editorial Board, Harold Bolitho and Rulan Pian, for their past services and relieved them of burdensome obligations to HJAS. Also, in line with past practices of this Journal, I added two newly tenured members of EALC, Melissa McCormick and Michael Szonyi, to the Editorial Board.

COMPARATIVE LITERATURE TRAINING PROGRAM

Below is an excerpt from Professor Stephen Owen's report

The first year of the special program in comparative and world literature was conceived when the standard program for visiting scholars and fellows had already been set. We kept the number to four because we only had that many desks. In spring 2008 I interviewed at Fudan, Nanjing University, Sichuan University, Beijing University, and Capital Normal University (the only completely independent Comparative Literature department in China).

It was no surprise to discover that almost all the applicants were interested in primarily Chinese literature or in some field related to Chinese literature. The young faculty and students chosen were: Jiang Tong, a PhD from Capital Normal University, interested in translation theory; Bian Dongbo, a senior graduate student at Nanjing University interested in East Asian literary relations; Ma Xiaolu, an MA student from Beida, interested in poetry and autobiography in Russian, Chinese, and English; and Liang Zhao, from Sichuan University, working on minority literatures in China, with a sophisticated understanding of the cultural forces at work in the construction of "minority literature."

The participants were asked to attend the two semesters of Harvard's world literature course, both as a common ground for discussion and to experience a different version of a type of course commonly taught in China. The visitors were also encouraged to audit courses and attend lectures according to their interests. I tried to meet with them on a weekly basis, though there were times when my own schedule did not permit that.

My own nature was inclined to give them full liberty to follow their own interests. Such a year of relative freedom is a rare opportunity in the present academic world. Each of the four then set off in quite different directions. Jiang Tong explored a number of things, including auditing a course in translation theory and exploring old newspapers in Widener.

Bian Dongbo is an immensely learned Chinese department scholar. He will clearly be a leader in the field in the future. He was interested in Chinese texts surviving in East Asia outside of China. He delved into the riches of the Harvard-Yenching library, especially our excellent collection of Sino-Korean materials, and audited courses.

Ma Xiaolu was our only MA student that year, and she has gone on to the Comparative Literature program at Harvard. Although she had to finish up her M.A. thesis, she audited quite a few courses and worked on improving her Russian. She will, I hope, return to China and will, most perfectly, represent a fusion of Chinese learning and Western learning.

In the case of Liang Zhao from Sichuan University, I can see why the HYI program is not just an enhancement but intellectually central to a scholar's development. Having read carefully what she had written, it was clear that she had internalized basic theoretical issues in her field. She was interested entirely in the Chinese case, how dominant Han culture interacted with local cultures in the Southwest. She made excellent use of her time at Harvard, tracking other minority cultures outside of China. Hers is a major issue "world literature," addressed in different ways in different places. She takes back to China a broader understanding of a phenomenon that has recently attracted much attention in China.

STAFF CHANGES

In 2008-2009 a number of staffing changes took place at the Harvard-Yenching Institute. Peter Kelley, Executive Director, and Huang Wansheng, Editor, left the Institute. Susan Alpert became Assistant Director for Finance and Administration. Li Ruohong became Assistant Director for Programs and Planning. Nam Nguyen became Academic Program Manager. Lindsay Strogatz became Assistant to the Director.